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1861 - 1961

Transylvania County

CENTENNIAL



HISTORICAL SOUVENIR PROGRAM

VIEW OF TOWN OF BREVARD - 1896 - FROM COOPERS HILL OR MT. SUPRISE



DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to the memory of the Pioneers of Transylvania county.

There are many. In fact, the complete list would fill this entire book.

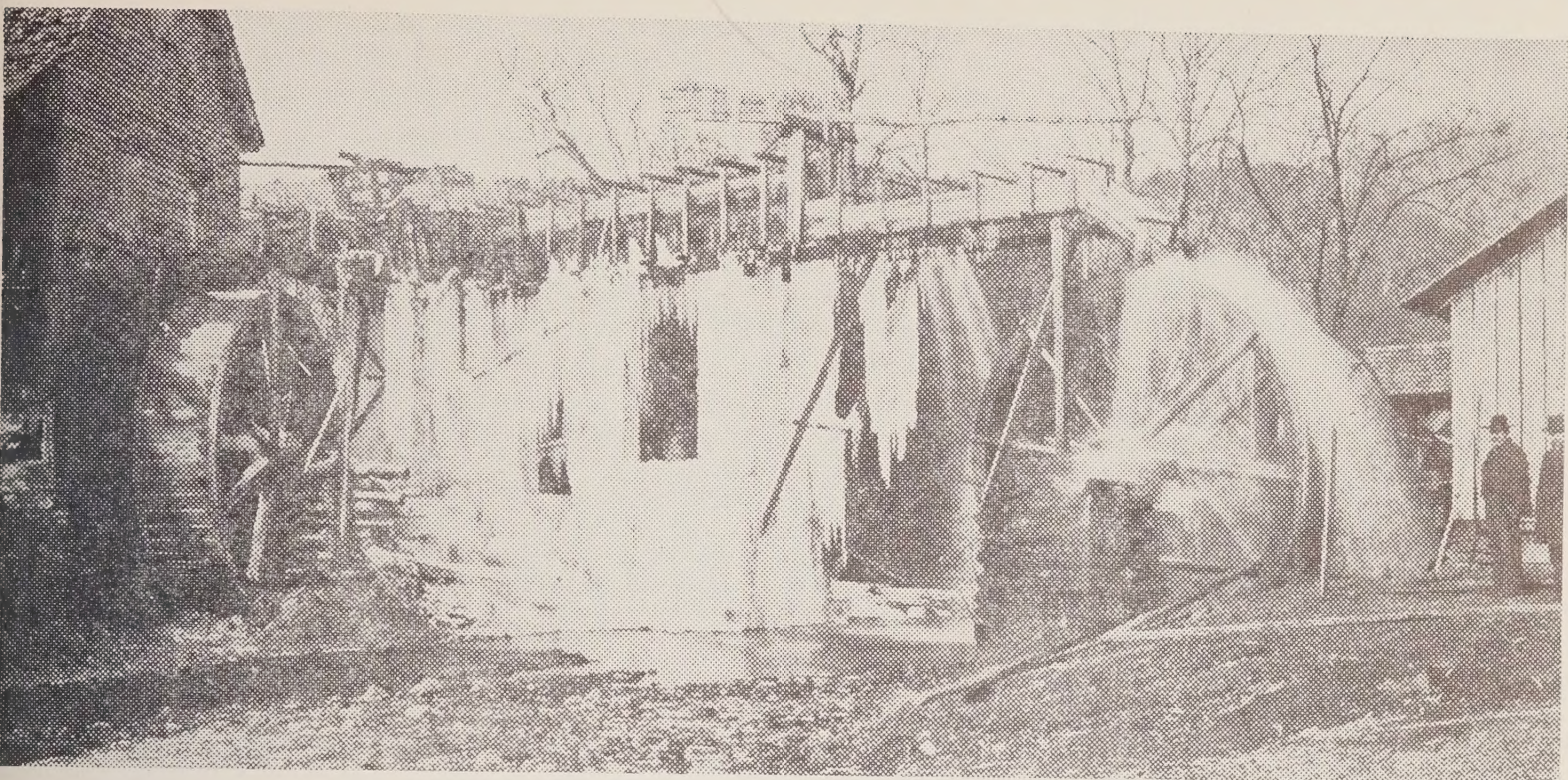
Listed below is a partial group, who were dedicated citizens and leaders in many fields of endeavor.

The owner of the book is invited to add the names of others.

Henry A. Plummer
Thomas H. Shipman
T. H. Galloway
W. M. Henry
S. M. Macfie
T. T. Loftis
Miss Beulah May Zachary
W. H. Duckworth
Harry H. Straus
Dr. R. L. Stokes
W. S. Ashworth
Eva Puett Smith
Randal W. Everett
W. W. Croushorn
John W. McMinn
F. D. Clement
Virgil McCrary
S. E. Varner, Sr.
Mrs. Elizabeth Mont Silversteen
Mrs. Frances Eugenia Chapman
Dr. W. J. Wallis
Rev. Chalmers D. Chapman
B. C. Lankford
Robert L. Gash
A. H. Harris
T. Coleman Galloway
J. F. Hayes
J. M. Allison
J. S. Bromfield
W. E. Breese
Louis Carr
C. C. Yongue
F. E. B. Jenkins
Dr. J. F. Zachary
Miss Rose Shipman
Eugene J. Coltrane
Ralph R. Fisher
T. C. Henderson
Dr. C. W. Hunt
E. J. Jennings
Dr. William M. Lyday
Joseph H. Pickelsimer
Mrs. Beulah McMinn Zachary
T. T. Patton

Capt. Bill Fetzer
C. R. McNeely
Dr. E. S. English
A. W. Wheeler
Mary C. Jenkins
J. K. Barclay
C. C. Kilpatrick
Dr. Roy Long
W. C. Austin
C. K. Osborne
W. H. Duckworth
A. H. Houston
Rev. John Seagle
John Boggs
Carl Moltz
Richard G. Stone
Mrs. Virginia A. Webb
Nathan McMinn
Mrs. Rebecca W. Breese
W. W. Zachary
Solomon Jones
Sheriff Jim King
Capt. Tom Boswell
E. P. McCoy
Mrs. Mary Ashe Macfie
Dr. J. B. Wilkerson
A. N. Jenkins
Joseph Silversteen
Fred E. Shuford
Ed M. Anderson
W. D. Davis
Lem Brooks
Welch Galloway
C. M. Douglas
R. P. Kilpatrick
Mrs. Lucy B. Wallis
J. L. Bell
T. D. England
Plato Scruggs
Judson McCrary
S. P. Verner
W. P. Kimzey
Cos Paxton
Luther Aiken
Dr. E. L. Lyday

Tom Wood
Ralph H. Zachary, Sr.
James F. Barrett
T. W. Whitmire
A. H. King
C. L. Osborne
W. E. Bishop
J. E. Clayton
Luther Couch
J. J. Stevenson
O. L. Erwin
J. E. Waters
Alex Patterson
J. A. Miller
Baxter Summey
Edwin Poor
W. B. Henderson
Mary Lock Sledge
J. B. Jones
Charles W. Pickelsimer



KINGS MILL. — used both for water ground corn meal, as well as a lumber mill, operated from the waters of King's Creek.

Sketches Of Opportunitie's Empire

Transylvania County 1861-1961

BY MARY JANE McCRARY

It will require a great stretch of imagination to think of the beautiful and fertile valley of Transylvania as once having been a mountainous prairie. The sites where the town of Rosman, Brevard, and Pisgah Forest are now located, and the fertile bottom lands of the French Broad and Davidson Rivers were once lagoons, bogs, swamps and quagmires. The only trees in these low places were a few isolated willows and maples. The various kinds of fruit, berries, nuts and flowers were found on the peaks.

Tradition tells us that when the white man first visited this part of the state, "he stood on a knoll and looked out at the great expanse of coarse grass in the bleaching state and at the cane brakes. It was in the fall and what he saw seemed to him to be a great stack yard of hay with the ricks rising higher and higher and outlined by green border. Here and there the deer with head in the air could be seen watching the intruder. The balsams and the spruce pine were much in evidence on the higher elevations, but none

of the other various kinds of pine were found. These and fruit trees were brought later by the pioneer settlers. The country was abounding in rabbits, squirrels, o'possums, deer, panthers, wolves, bears, and many kinds of the feathered flocks. The only human beings were the red men, who received the visitor with curiosity, but with no resentment."

At the close of the Revolutionary War practically all the western part of the state, which included Transylvania County, was claimed by the Cherokee Indians. By the time the new government went into effect, a few immigrant wagons were moving across the Blue Ridge and their parties were making investigations of various places. Some of these people finally reached the Indian Rock on the Greenville Highway (now known as Dunns Rock) which was east of the French Broad River, and made agreement with the tribe of the Connesteers, and settled there near an old Indian Village.

This location was the site of an Indian Town, for some cause, most of the red men moved to the west or to the upper part of the French Broad River. The exact date of this settlement is not known. There is a printed legend of the Connestee Federation which dates that tribe about 1725. Records indicate that the tribe was visited by troops under an English officer at that time. For more than a half century after this recorded visit, the village of Connestee was lost, and the legend tells that the entire population was carried into the interior of Pilot Knob Mountain and are living there today. From an ancient map this legendary location appears to have been Looking Glass Mountain as we know it today.

Most of the settlers were descendants of families who had come to Pennsylvania, Virginia and to the coasts of North and South Carolina from England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland about fifty years before the Revolutionary War. Some of them fought bravely for independence. The majority were from educated Christian homes and were Old School Presbyterians. Some of them brought Bibles which had been the companions of their forefathers when they crossed the Atlantic. These items may be found in the homes of their descendants today. Families by the name of Clayton, Duckworth, Davidson, Patton, Orr, Tillespie, Owen, McCall, Galloway, and Hogsed were among those who settled in the upper part of the French Broad Valley from the East Fork to below Penrose.

These people built rude cabins on the side of the mountains. Benjamin Davidson was an exception. He selected a site on the "Rolling River." He had cut ditches to drain his place, as the lower part was all drowned land. Since Davidson's grant (1797) called for the land on both sides of the river for some distance, the other settlers soon began to call the river Ben Davidson's Creek.

A few years after that period the Boylstons and Brittains had similar difficulties in planting a settlement down near the present Henderson County line; likewise the Merrills, Hamiltons and Brocks in the Little River and Crab Creek areas. The Hogsed and Carson families settled on the east side of the French Broad River. The Wilsons and Kings settled near the present site of Brevard. The Fishers, Greens, Reeds, Sanders, all came as hunters and settled at the head waters of Toxaway River.

General Charles McDowell, one of the leaders of the Battle of King's Mountain, took out grants in various parts of the valley. Several grants were taken out by McDowell, Carson and Clayton on the upper French Broad. The grants called for anywhere from one hundred to six hundred and forty acres.

There is a dispute about which was settled first—the Davidson River section or the Cherryfields. The exact date is not known. However, there is a record of deeds as early as 1797 in the Catheys Creek area.

There were several reasons for these settlements. Some people came through mere curiosity and to explore the mountainous part of the state. Some came

to acquire more land and to speculate; others came to enjoy the climate; some came seeking health, as they had fever in the low country; and still others came to make a settlement.

The above account gives a word picture of the making of a county, whose area was earlier situated in part of three counties, in Buncombe 1791; Henderson 1838 and in Jackson, partially from 1851.

Transylvania County was formed in 1861 from parts of Henderson and Jackson counties. It was wholly within the Appalachian Mountains. About three fourths of the area is in the Pisgah and Nantahala National Forests. Approximately three fourths of the area is covered by forests, principally second growth of hardwood. Lumbering, the processing of forest products, two main industrial plants, and several other small industries provide employment. Corn, hay, rye, potatoes, vegetables and gladioluses are grown. The most productive areas are in the bottom lands along the French Broad River and its tributaries. Some of the farm-grown products, including livestock, poultry, hogs and tobacco and most of the lumber reaches outside markets.

Our County has 379 square miles or 242,562 acres. It is in the southwestern part of North Carolina, with its southern boundary on the South Carolina line. Brevard, the County Seat, is situated near the geographical center, 31 miles southwest of Asheville, 270 miles south of Raleigh, the State Capital.

The elevations of the county range from 1,265 feet, where Toxaway River enters South Carolina, to 6,043 feet on Chestnut bald mountain in the northwestern part. The western and northern boundaries are formed by a chain of mountains embracing the Tennessee and Pisgah ranges in which are found the highest peaks in the county. The Blue Ridge lies along the southern boundary.

In the northern, central, and southwestern parts is a series of mountains, the chief of which are Chestnut Bald, Funneltop, Looking Glass, Black Cedar Rock. The best known is Pisgah. On its summit one can stand and view four counties, for it is here that the four meet—Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson and Transylvania.

The southern part of the county is less mountainous than the northern, but becomes rather steep and somewhat more mountainous near the French Broad River. Practically all the level and gentle rolling lands is along the French Broad, Davidson and Little Rivers. The Pink Beds, an upland feature, is described as being level in some places and rolling in others.

A noticeable feature in several locations is the perpendicular walls of solid rock rising 400 to 700 feet, such as Looking Glass and Dunn's Rock. Looking Glass has been described by some writers as the most impressive spectacle in the mountains. The rock is a granite formation and its face reflects the "rays of sun very much in the manner of a mirror."

The French Broad River originates within the county, the headwaters consisting of its West, North



Harvest from a day's hunt in Transylvania county at the turn of the century

and East Forks. This river flows northeastward out of the county and has considerable fall, yet it is a slow moving body of water and thereby gives the impression of depth. The most important tributaries are the three forks mentioned and the Davidson, Hills, and Little Rivers, and the Bradley, Avery, Mathey's, Carson and Williamson Creeks. All are swift and in many places there are falls and rapids which have potential water power. The same is true of the waters in the southwestern part of the county which are divided on the ridge, which serves as a watershed sending the waters to the Mississippi River on the northeast and the waters of Horse Pasture and Toxaway Rivers eventually drain into the Savannah River.

The climate of this mountainous section is termed moderate. The summers are cooler and the rainfall greater than in the interior of the state. It is characterized by moderate winters with short cool spells. The summer days are mild and the nights are cool and pleasant, thereby offering the ideal—"nature's conditioning."

Our county's fame and popularity grows out of its unsurpassed waterfalls. There are 14 large ones which are accessible. The highest is at Toxaway, it is near the head of the Toxaway River. Above it is the famous Toxaway Lake which has recently been built. The water falls over the high shelf for about 100 feet. After tumbling to the foot of the fall, it wanders through a bed of large rocks for a distance down the stream, making it very valuable for potential power. Another fall of great beauty is the Con-

nectee Double Fall, which is 119 feet high. Here two streams of water leap down opposite mountain sides and in a shower of foam pour down their waters in one pool beneath. The various falls are located along the streams set in luxuriant mountain foliage. These waters come dashing down the mountain sides and are so varied in appearance that they never leave one with the feeling of sameness, and thus our area has well been named "The Land of Waterfalls."

FLORA

The flora of the county is beautiful and varied. Early frost coming suddenly brings a blaze of glory and brilliancy of color not surpassed in any part of eastern America. There is a delicate blending of color and harmony which is the greatest charm and its contrast with the "lush" green of summer or the bare branches of winter, adds a variety which is lacking in many other kinds of forests.

Springtime is known in this area by the coming of the birds and the flowers. The glades and hills provide the wood violet and the wild asters at that time. Whole fields of Ox-eye daisies and Queen Ann's lace make glad the June days, and joe-pye and iron weed brighten the summer and fall fields.

While some of the most persistent flowers have survived, many which once made our hills and dales glow with color, have given way to the inroads of commercial progress. But others of blossoming rarities are carrying on a persistent warfare on behalf of their right to exist. Some were found when pioneers came this way; others came as stowaways in

the carts and wagons that brought their first passengers.

Among the flora of Transylvania is the "English Forget-me-not" which grows at the spring sides and brooks of many farms and which was brought here from England by the Albert Jenkins family in 1872. Mrs. Jenkins told her neighbors that the seeds of this springside flower was all of England that she could bring. She planted the seed of the little cheery plant and was instrumental in seeing that it was transplanted to other brooksides in the valley, and it has now seeded itself all down the banks of the French Broad River.

In the seasons the mountains are truly ablaze with the flames that do not destroy. These blossoms are the azalea. The natives speak of them as "fire on the mountain" or the "yellow honeysuckles." The flame colored are but a part of the flood of blossoms that roll over the mountains. About the time that they appear the kalmia or laurel begins to open. The mountains are pink with these blossoms. Some simply know these by the name of "ivy" or some call them by the name of "calico bush."

No one would think of calling a lordly rhododendron a "calico bush." It is truly a member of the aristocratic plant life, which, with its thick, glossy evergreen leaves much larger than the laurel and darker in color. This plant is most appealing for decorative purposes even when not in bloom. The blooms are of exquisite pink and white, and grace many a ravine and roadside bank. In different parts of our county among them is the charming small leaf one with its small rose bay bloom and unlike the other rhododendron it sheds its leaf in the fall.

There is another type which seldom reaches a height of more than 20 feet, and it blooms abundantly in the higher elevations and is known as the Rhododendron Catawba, or the mountain rose-bay. This type blooms earlier than the first mentioned variety, its large clusters of lilac or purple and sometimes rose-red flowers. This plant makes a showy spectacle of the blooming season, since it chooses open places and the summits of the mountain to display its royal purple.

The pine, oak, walnut and poplar trees are our best and most valuable timber trees. The elm, and the maples are used for shade as well as the various oaks. Along the streams we have wild cherry and the sycamore.

Interspersed with the larger trees are the smaller ones such as the aromatic sassafras, the red and yellow maples, the beautiful dogwood which is the first to bring its wealth of white blossoms in the spring-time woods. The honey locust, sometimes grown in the forests, but more often in the fence corners and waste places beside the roads. Not uncommonly it marks the home site of some Transylvania pioneer.

In addition to the trees and flowers, grasses prevail over the whole county. The story of the grasses began before the age of man. They are necessary for the maintaining of animal life and soon were acknowledged as the natural overseer of the ground. Were it not for them the soil would be shifting as the sands, riding the raindrops as they go on their

journey to the sea. Our grasses are wheat, corn, oats, barley and rye. They have long furnished food and pasture for both domestic and wild animals.

Rivaling the flora and the grasses in beauty in the woods of this county are the various kinds of fern that prevail. The banks of the small streams are smothered under the fern and the leucothoe.

FAUNA

Wild life abounds and birds are found wherever food is plentiful. Raccoon and o'possum hunting is a great sport and during the open season one can find pleasure in hunting and fishing in the fields and streams.

When Uncle Sam was delegated (1920) by his folks to select a playground in the heart of the "Land of the Sky," he came to Brevard to make a wise choice. As a result, this section may be termed the gateway to one of Eastern America's fairest natural playgrounds. The Pisgah National Forest and Game Preserve embraces more than 90,000 acres. Here fishing and camping permits are granted under government supervision. As fine fishing as can be found anywhere in the South is available in the waters of the Pisgah National Forest Preserve.

BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY

The Blue Ridge Parkway by way of the Bennet Gap motor road reaches from Brevard, leads by easy stages to a commanding altitude, joining the Wagon Road Gap that intersects and leads to the Vanderbilt Lodge and Mount Pisgah and the Rat, the former being 5,749 feet in altitude. To the south from this gap a road leading a distance of approximately 1 miles to the Beach Gap. This span of road holds the most spectacular views into the mountain ranges of the great water divide, the French Broad Valley as well as distant views into the Great Smoky Mountains.

This beautiful land of sparkling waters and wonderful plant life, together with the hidden minerals that are tucked away in the recesses of the earth awaits the inquiring minds to uncover same. For the many rare and beautiful stones for the collector the builder or the sculptor's chisel hold assets that are yet untold.

It is a pleasure for all who truly appreciate the wonders that our section has been termed "opportunity's empire." In the words of the author, Margaret W. Morley: "May it be the pleasure of all to assist the charming efforts of nature and to pass on, as rightful inheritance to future generations an even more enchanting empire."

The following source material:

Transylvania County, by Ira Jones — Asheville Citizen clippings February, 1917.

Soil Survey — Transylvania County # 17, 1938.

The Carolina Mountains — by Margaret W. Morley Asheville and the Land of the Sky, by Martha N. Morley.



MOUNTAIN HOMESTEAD, replica of 100 years ago, situated on Island Ford road near Pisgah Girl Scout camp

History Of Transylvania County

READ BY LEWIS P. HAMLIN, NOVEMBER 6, 1954, AT A MEETING OF THE
WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Transylvania County was organized in 1861 under an act of the Legislature passed February 15, 1861 and was cut off from Henderson and Jackson Counties.

The history of the white man in Transylvania County started long before that date when the early traders from the settlements of North and South Carolina carried on trade with the Indians in this section. Through this trade the people of the colonies learned of the richness of the soil and the abundance of game in this section and were attracted here, some coming long before the land was subject to grant by the State of North Carolina.

About 1785 the State of North Carolina began issuing grants for land West of the Blue Ridge, after a treaty with the Indians through which the State acquired from the Indians certain lands lying West of the Blue Ridge.

The territory which is now Transylvania County, before Buncombe was cut off, was part of Burke County, and the territory now in the boundary of

Transylvania County has at times been part of Rutherford, Macon, Jackson, Buncombe, and Henderson Counties, and grants were issued to land in Transylvania County as a part of the counties named. Some grants, I am advised, were issued to Revolutionary War soldiers who had served in the war and were allowed to take up certain amounts of land in this territory for their service. According to "The History of Land Titles in Western North Carolina" by George H. Smathers the land West of the Blue Ridge was not open for grant until after 1785. Prior to that date the land West of the Blue Ridge belonged to the Indians and was transferred to the State of North Carolina by what is known as the Holsten Treaty. The dividing line was run by two men by the name of Meggs and Freeman and became known as the Meggs and Freeman line. This line passed through Transylvania County near Lake Toxaway and the land West of that line was not subject to grant until sometime later. According to Mr. Smathers' history the first grant to land West of the Blue Ridge was

granted about 1783. Among the first grants issued was one for land on Catheys Creek which is about 4 miles West of Brevard. This grant was to William Porter for 50 acres of land, dated October 11, 1783.

The early settlers coming into what is now Transylvania County came through Eastern North Carolina and into this section, or through South Carolina and into this county. Those coming from South Carolina usually followed an Indian trail leading through Tryon and Henderson County or followed the Indian trail leading from South Carolina through the Toxaway section, crossing the French Broad River near Rosman at a point known as Estatoe Ford. This trail led on through the county and across through the Tennessee Gap into Jackson County.

As stated before, Transylvania County was formed from Henderson and Jackson Counties. The part taken from Henderson County extended to a line near Lake Toxaway and the part from Jackson County extended from Lake Toxaway to the present Jackson County line.

The act of February 15, 1861 providing for the formation of a county and provided that all Justices of the Peace and Officers of Militia would hold office until officers were elected by the county and provided that a Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions be held by all the Justices of the Peace of Transylvania County on the third Monday in February, May, August, and November, the first session to be held at the house of B. C. Lankford on the third Monday in May next, the majority of the justices of the peace present to elect a Clerk, a Sheriff, a Coroner, Entry Taker, Surveyor, Constable, and all other officers, and appoint a place to meet until a house was built.

James S. Siniard, Joshua Brvant, George Orr, F. W. Johnstone, Col. Joseph Hamilton, of Transylvania County, and Alexander Henry, of Henderson County, were named as a committee to select and determine a site for a permanent seat of justice who shall locate the same at such place as they may think best and most convenient to a majority of the citizens of the county, which shall be called Brevard and shall be located within five miles of W. P. Poor's store, and shall purchase or accept as a gift a tract of land not less than 50 acres and deed to be made to the Chairman of the County Court. They were to meet between the 10th of May and the 10th of June, 1861, to select a site. A majority may make the selection.

B. C. Lankford, L. S. Gash, and Alex England donated the 50 acres for the Town of Brevard as appears by deed recorded in Deed Book 2 at page 402 in the office of the Register of Deeds for Transylvania County.

James Killian, W. P. Poor, and Charles Patton were named as a committee to lay off lots in said town and may sell lots at public sale. The Act provided that the Sheriffs of Henderson and Jackson Counties would collect taxes, which shall be paid over to the school districts of Transylvania County by the Superintendent of common schools.

The first court held in Transylvania County was on the third Monday in May, 1861, at the home of B. C. Lankford and then known as the Valley Store. This location was at the place now known as the Straus School. Present at this Court were the fol-

lowing Justices of the Peace: Present and presiding the Worshipful John Clayton, B. F. Aiken, Jeremiah Osborne, W. R. Galloway, A. B. D. Allison, W. A. Paxton, James H. Duckworth, M. S. Thomas, B. C. Lankford, M. M. Wilson, James W. Clayton, L. S. Gash, J. C. Lyon, Azra Orr, F. W. Johnstone, Charles Patton, William Duckworth, O. L. Erwin, Albert Lowe, J. W. Killian and W. P. Poor, who constituted the court for the selection of officers and elected the following officers:

Robert Hamilton, Sheriff
James W. Clayton, Coroner
J. J. Wilson, Register
James Hamlin, Entry Taker
W. P. Poor, County Trustee
T. G. Henson, Surveyor
A. B. D. Allison, Ranger
A. W. Beck, Standard Keeper
W. L. Love, County Solicitor

The court passed on order allowing the members of the court \$2.00 a day for their services in holding court. A Select Court was named and was composed of James W. Killian, Chairman, L. S. Gash, and Charles Patton. P. C. Orr was elected Treasurer of public buildings. Court adjourned to meet the next day at the Camp Grounds near B. C. Lankford's.

J. C. Lyon, W. L. Lyon, P. B. Williams, J. W. Clayton, and George C. Neill were appointed as a Board of Common Schools to meet on the 7th day of June to organize.

At this meeting of the Court judges were appointed to hold the next election. It appears that two judges were appointed in each precinct to hold the election for the county officials and two judges for the Congressman and Representative.

The minutes of the following meeting did not show who was elected to the offices, except George Orr was elected Clerk of the Court, Robert Hamilton was elected Sheriff, and George C. Neill was sworn in as Deputy Sheriff.

At this meeting the Chairman of the County Court was authorized to pay each volunteer soldier the sum of \$15.00. Later a \$10.00 addition was made, making a total of \$25.00.

On July 24, 1861, appears to be the first money borrowed by Transylvania County. The Chairman of the Court was authorized to give a note for \$15,000.00 to a bank in Asheville, the money to be distributed by Captain F. W. Johnstone to the soldiers.

The first tax list for Transylvania County was made out in 1862 and instead of listing the tax burdens by townships, as we do now, they were listed as companies.

The Eastatoe Company paid a total tax of \$290.20.
The Gloucester Company \$176.90.
The Catheys Creek Company \$828.64.
East Fork Company \$745.52.
Brevard Company \$635.80.
Davidson River Company \$630.00.
Little River Company \$667.24.
Cedar Mountain Company \$209.59.
Not credited to any precinct, \$62.20.

The tax list showed a total valuation of property in Transylvania County of \$770,926. The total taxes were \$4,121.19. \$1,832.12 of this tax went to the state and \$2,289.07 to the county.

The value of the property listed was distributed as follows:

142,268 acres of land valued at \$432,111.00.
There were 243 white polls and 4 free blacks.
447 slaves valued at \$199,335.00.
Cash on hand \$82,690.00.
Bank stock \$37,300.00.

Two practicing physicians were listed for taxes, H. R. Rutledge and A. J. Lyday. It appears that they paid a certain privilege tax as practicing physicians.

H. R. Rutledge, I am advised, was a physician who came here with the Johnstones, who were large slave owners, and it appears that this family with all their slaves left Transylvania County sometime during the Civil War.

Dr. Andrew Jackson Lyday was the only general practitioner in Transylvania County at that time.

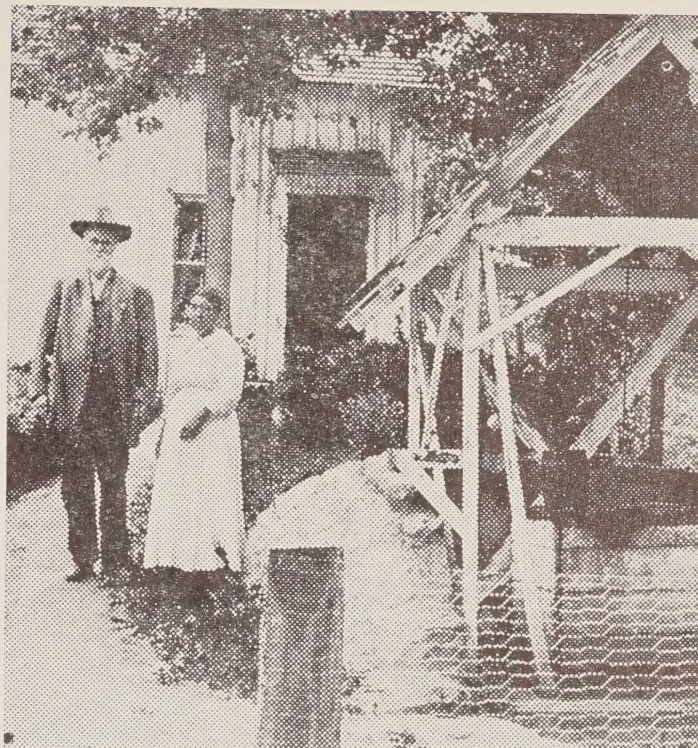
This first tax list reveals that there were 242 white poll tax payers and 4 free blacks. These free blacks had been freed by Mathew Wilson. The value of slaves ranged from \$300.00 to \$1200.00 each. The slaves were owned by 97 different people in numbers from 1 to 27.

Some of the unusual things listed for taxes were 15 gold watches, 4 pianos, and 36 carriages.

In the early days in Transylvania County there were very few roads and transportation was only by horse and ox drawn vehicles. Marketing was by wagon into parts of South Carolina, as far down as Charleston, where people would exchange products of the county for things that were needed in the home. There was no market for timber in the early days and much fine timber was cut and burned in order to clear the land for farming. The first timber carried to market from this county was floated down the French Broad River to Asheville, where it was sold. An attempt was made at one time to make the French Broad River navigable, and jetties were built in order that boats might come up the river. A boat called the Mountain Lily came to Brevard and returned, but no other trip was ever attempted.

The first railroad to come to Transylvania County was the railroad from Hendersonville to Brevard in 1895. The county voted \$60,000.00 in bonds which were the first bonds ever issued by Transylvania County. To assist in building the railroad from Brevard to Rosman in 1900 the county voted \$25,000.00 in bonds and the railroad was built on to Rosman.

With the coming of the railroad lumber mills started operation in Transylvania County and furnished the first employment, other than farming, for the citizens and also furnished markets for the timber. It was about this time that Joseph S. Silverstein came to Transylvania County and established his operations at Rosman, furnishing employment for a number of the local citizens. About the same time J. F. Hayes organized what was known as the Toxaway Company and they built the Franklin Hotel and what they called a turnpike road from Brevard to Lake Toxaway. They built Lake Toxaway and the Lake Toxaway Hotel in Transylvania County and the Sapphire and Fairfield Hotels in Jackson County, and all of Transylvania County became a great tour-



R. J. COOK and wife, Augusta. A civil war veteran and one of the men employed in the construction of the first Lake Toxaway dam

ist resort. Many excursion trains came from various parts of the country to Lake Toxaway. During the entire history of Transylvania County it has been a place where people came in the summer. Prior to the Civil War a hotel was built near what is known as Rockbrook and was burned during the war. Another was built at Buck Forest and many prominent people from South Carolina and other southern states came to these resorts. Early in the history of this county people built summer homes in and around Cedar Mountain, and that is still a great resort for summer tourists.

From the records in Transylvania County it appears that the county, from its beginning, was in the hands of able and competent men. Their first acts were to provide for the common schools in the county. I think they realized the necessity of an educated people if the young government of America was to endure.

The county was divided into school districts and money apportioned to various districts, and teachers were appointed to teach such length of time as the money would pay for. In those days the teachers boarded with the parents of the children and the salaries were very low. Because of the insufficiency of tax money to carry on the schools many communities had subscription schools where the parents paid a definite amount for each pupil attending.

In those days there were various kinds of schools. Someone who was a mathematician would go into the various communities and teach an arithmetic school for 2 to 4 weeks in which nothing but arithmetic was

studied. In that way in a short time the pupil gained considerable knowledge of arithmetic. Others would teach writing schools in the same manner and one learns from examining the records that many of the early officials were expert penmen. Singing schools were also taught in the communities, the teacher traveling from one place to another and teaching for about two weeks at a time. The Christian Harmony was the book largely used in those early singing schools.

The public schools were carried on throughout the history of the county, but the length of term was short and the payment of the teachers very low. The first bond issue for schools in Transylvania County was voted by districts and started about the year 1906. This was during the time that T. C. Henderson was Superintendent of Schools. He did a wonderful work in getting improved schools in all the districts and in consolidating some of the schools and building new school houses.

The first and only high school in Transylvania County for a great number of years was the Brevard Institute which was established by Fitch Taylor and was supported by the Methodist Church.

There was one other school that taught high school subjects, known as the Broad Valley Institute, located at Enon.

A county high school was later established at Brevard, but it was not until 1923 that Transylvania County had an accredited high school. While the schools today are crowded and inadequate, we have many good buildings in the county and have come a long way in the past 45 years in providing school houses and school facilities for the education of the children.

The early settlers of this section of North Carolina brought with them their Bibles. Church services were held in the homes of the citizens until such time as organized churches were established.

The Presbyterian Church was one of the first organized churches established in Transylvania County so far as I am able to determine. I find from the records in the office of the Register of Deeds for Transylvania County that a deed was issued on August 15, 1800, to Zachariah Candler for 640 acres of land on the French Broad River. One line in the grant calls for running to the river above Nathaniel Johnson's store about 20 poles East of the Dug Road about 100 poles below the Presbyterian meeting house. This indicates that a meeting house of the Presbyterians had been established at that time long enough to become a land mark.

The Baptist Church was established somewhere around 1800. The first organized church was at Catheys Creek in 1810 or 1812. The next Baptist Church was organized by the Catheys Creek Baptist Church at Macedonia in Gloucester and from that they continued to spread over the county until Bap-

tists are by far the largest denomination in the county.

The Methodist Church was organized about the year 1838. I am told that Bishop Asbury came into this section from about 1790 to 1814 and organized the Oak Grove Methodist Church, perhaps around 1838. Prior to the organization of the Oak Grove Church the Methodists met in the Davidson River Presbyterian Church.

The Episcopal Church was organized sometime prior to 1861, and during or soon after the war ceased to be active, and was dormant for a number of years until it was re-organized and a church built on East Main Street where the church is now located.

These are the original churches. Others have been established in recent years.

The time allotted me on the program does not permit more than a brief reference to the churches. When a history of this county is written I hope a complete history of all the churches will be written showing the great influence they have had in building the character of our people. Nothing except the tain a high type of citizens as the churches and their Christian homes has done as much to build and sus-pioneer preachers.

In 1938 the Ecusta Paper Corporation was located at Pisgah Forest in Transylvania County. Since that time the Olin Industries have purchased the Ecusta Paper Corporation and have added a cellophane plant. They now employ hundreds of people and the influence of contented, well-paid employees can be seen in our town and county as reflected in better homes and more modern conveniences for our people. Hundreds of new people of high character and education have been brought into our county, both as management and employees of these industries. Many of them are coming into the churches, and furnishing church leadership and it is necessary that the churches build to meet the needs of the present day. The Methodists, Presbyterians, and Baptists are all completing a building program. The members of the various churches are rallying to the support of the program and it is evident that the necessary building is being done.

In conclusion let me say that I feel that I am addressing this to leaders with tremendous influence in all this section of North Carolina. You can render great service by a strict observance of Christian principles and active participation in church work. Christianity and freedom are inseparable and in the world today, with the threat of slavery through communism, Christianity is the only force strong enough to halt and roll back the tide of communism that has been sweeping the world and guarantee freedom and security. The church needs the loyalty and support of men and women such as are assembled here today in order that we may guarantee to the generations to come the freedom that we have enjoyed.



FORMER HOME of Baxton C. Lankford, now owned and occupied by A. A. Towers family

Notes On Transylvania Railroads

Prepared for the Historical Commission by
Martha Gash Boswell

For every pioneer community the crucial problems of survival and development hang on the establishment of effective transportation. Before the Civil War Western North Carolina and East Tennessee were served only by roads, the French Broad being too shallow and too swift for steamers. The major turnpike for the mountain section ran through Knoxville and Asheville to upper South Carolina, and on to the riverport of Augusta and the seaport of Charleston. Along this road cattle, sheep, pigs, and turkeys were driven in vast numbers, and Buncombe innkeepers grew rich on the trade.

When the first steam sawmill came to Buncombe County in 1824 an ambitious Plank Road was constructed to Greenville, S. C., but when a railroad was built between Columbia and Charleston, the surveys of possible rail routes across the mountains were pushed with feverish energy.

Before the mountain counties could be linked to the growing railroad system of the Piedmont, the Civil War put a stop to all ambitious schemes and for two decades our section was impoverished by isolation. In 1870 East Tennessee achieved rail connections with Atlanta and Mobile and Buncombe's lucra-

tive trade derived from the passage of Tennessee livestock along her major turnpike was lost forever. Rail connections now became a grim necessity and through frantic effort the East-West Railroad reached Asheville in 1881. When a line was completed to Hendersonville, a railroad for Transylvania was at length feasible.

The first turnpike in Transylvania had been built from Swannanoa to Cherryfield in 1795; this was known as the Dug Road. Two other important arteries soon connected the county with South Carolina and her seaboard, the road from Duns Rock to Greenville by way of Jones Gap and that from Old Toxaway (now Rosman) through the Canebreak to Pickens. In 1870 there had been the brief dream of the Mountain Lily, a paddlewheel steamship that made one round trip from Mud Creek to Elmbend Bridge and then sank at her dock. The railroad soon superseded the steamship as the county's major goal. In 1892-93, in spite of the panic which put many railroads in the hands of receivers, two surveys were made in Transylvania, one by T. S. Boswell, from Old Toxaway to Pickens, which came to nothing, and one by Flemming Ramseur from Hendersonville to Brevard, which was brought to completion by the building of the Hendersonville and Brevard Railroad.

In 1894 the first train reached Brevard. It was welcomed by a crowd of awed spectators, among whom was a man gripping a wheelbarrow. When the chuffy little engine ground to a stop and discharged a great puff of steam he dashed for safety, fleeing blindly down the road until he gained the flank of Cooper's Hill, still trundling his wheelbarrow.

The building of the line was marred by one fatality: an engine fell through a temporary bridge, killing the fireman and carrying the engineer Ben Edgerton to the bottom of the French Broad. After this accident Edgerton held that an engineer was safe as long as he stuck to his cab; years later he suffered a serious accident when he jumped from his safe base as his engine struck a slide.

In 1897 the H & B was put in the hands of a receiver. T. J. Rickman was named manager and T. S. Boswell superintendent. One train a day was kept moving on its nineteen-mile round trip, which consumed an hour and a half each way. The home office was in Hendersonville, the repair shop in Brevard. Ben Edgerton continued as engineer and Jim Neil was conductor until fatally injured in a wreck at the Davidson River trestle.

My memories of the H & B are necessarily from the viewpoint of my father, T. S. Boswell, who "played many parts" during the difficult days of the receivership. On his first morning with the H & B he found the one engine chained to the track at Hendersonville and he had to give his personal note at the bank for the rolling stock and buy a can of oil on his own credit before he could move a wheel. On short winter days he would leave the house by lantern light, see the engine readied for its somewhat dubious run, attend to station accounts and freight shipments, sell tickets, sometimes act as conductor to Hendersonville; then, changing to his business coat, he would play superintendent at the office until three o'clock. Returning to Brevard, he would gather up the day's records and after supper, spreading out large sheets of yellow tissue paper, he would work over the company books hour after hour.

In 1899 the railroad was purchased by the Toxaway Company and a new era opened in Transylvania. Both the money and the personnel for the new development came from Pittsburgh. J. F. Hayes was general manager, H. B. Bruno was treasurer, A. K. Orr was in the office and his brother Walter was on the train as flagman. T. S. Boswell was the company's civil engineer.

The first step taken was to establish offices in Brevard and to launch a petition for a bond issue for \$25,000 to help finance a \$60,000 rail extension to Old Toxaway. The Sylvan Valley Times for October 27 noted that the petition was said to have already received 650 signatures, more than half the registered voters of the county. This was probably a gross ex-

aggeration, as there was strong opposition to the bond issue and Pittsburgh supplied a helpful fund to be used in the election, which carried the bond issue and put the Democratic minority in control of the county.

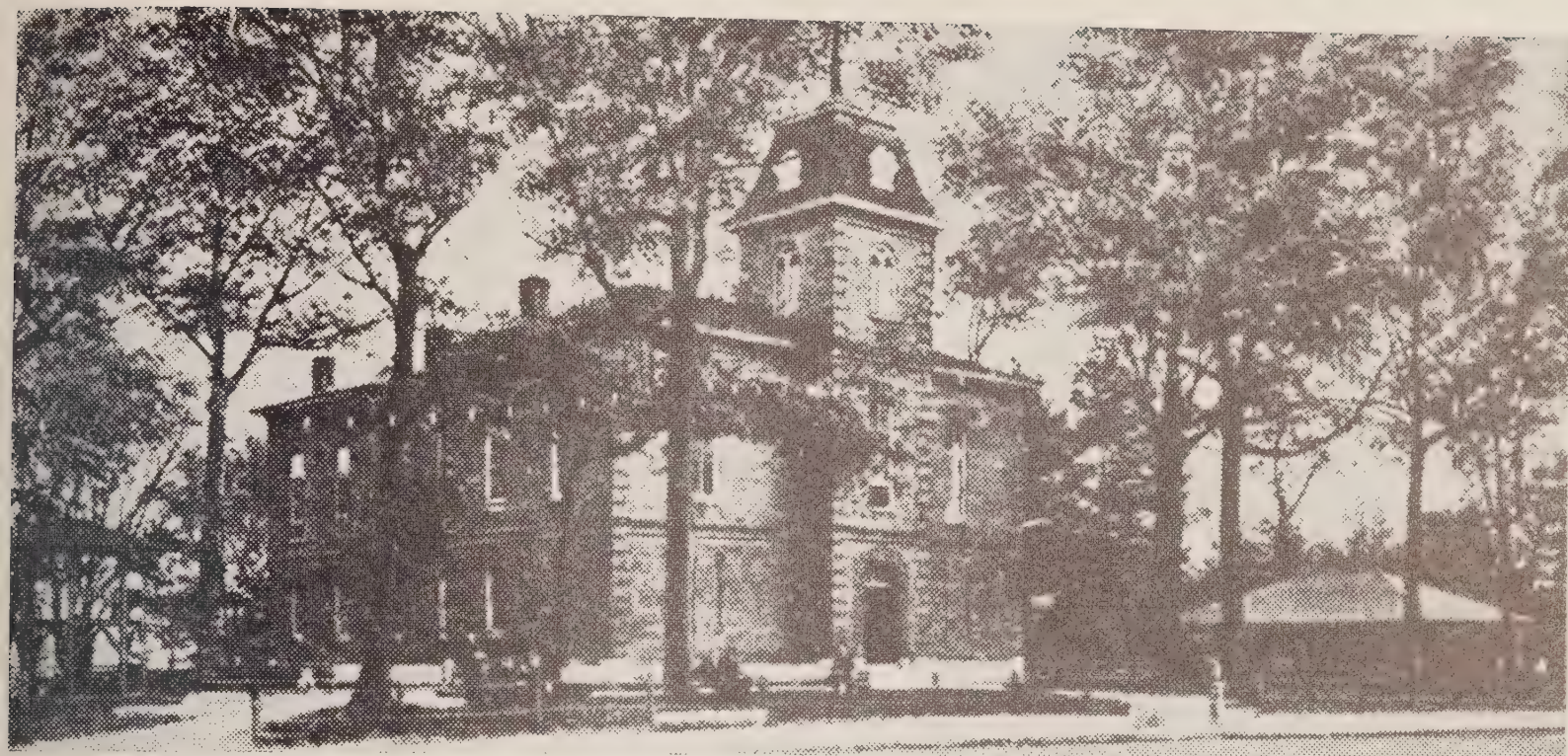
While the line to Old Toxaway, now rechristened Rosman, was being built, the Franklin Hotel was rising in Brevard, to be followed by the building of lakes and hotels at Sapphire and Fairfield. In 1903 the railroad was extended to the site of the company's greatest undertaking, Lake Toxaway.

It is hard to visualize the change that came to the little village of Brevard, that having doubled in size in two years, had just reached a population of 300. By 1905 six trains a day were passing through Brevard during the summer season, carrying pullman cars from St. Louis, New Orleans, Atlanta, and Jacksonville. Winter and summer the Transylvania operated a daily train out of the Asheville station, carrying an observation car that was the last word in comfortable riding. Hotels ran full for a few fine years from the Franklin to Fairfield Inn. The three upper hotels were connected by a tanbark road for the exclusive use of hotel guests.

By 1906 or '07 the wave began to fall. In 1913 the Toxaway Company was dissolved and its holdings were sold, the Toxaway Lake property going to E. H. Jennings of Pittsburgh and the railroad to the Southern Railway.

In 1916 Western North Carolina suffered its great disaster, a flood that has no counterpart in the history of the mountains. After a rain extending over many sodden weeks, cloud bursts, flash floods, and continued torrents of rain descended upon the mountain area from Highlands to Marshall, from Hendersonville to the Green River Valley. The greatest loss of life was at Biltmore and Bat Cave, but roads, railroads, dams, and power lines were swept away over the whole area. The morning after the flood most of the lakes of the affected area were gone; Fairfield stood firm, Lake Toxaway was still in place but an underground spring was eating into the lower face of the dam. Toxaway stood for five days after the flood without any measures being taken to check the erosion of the dam, then the earth core gave way. The fact that Fairfield stood and that Lake Toxaway lasted so long against such erosion is an indication of the staying powers of the earth-core dam.

With the loss of Lake Toxaway and our entrance into World War I the great days of the tourist hotel in Transylvania were over and with the decline of the hotel trade and the ascendancy of the automobile Transylvania's railroad has withered away. In its place we have the modern highways that bring in an increasing number of summer-home seekers, as well as one-night trippers, in place of the leisurely guests who once spent long summers in our hotels and boarding houses.



TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY COURTHOUSE and U.D.C. Library — 1910

Brevard's First Boom - 1899

Notes on Two Issues of the Sylvan Valley News
Prepared for the Historical Commission by
Martha Boswell

From Mrs. John Poteat of Marion, remembered in Brevard as Miss Margaret Blythe, the Historical Commission has received two copies of the Sylvan Valley News of 1899. These early issues are of particular interest as no file of Transylvania's first newspaper is to be found. They contain little that would now be rated as news, but they offer fascinating glimpses of our community at the turn of the century.

The Sylvan Valley News was a four-page sheet, without illustrations except for crude cuts of advertisers. The front page was neatly divided between three columns of advertising and three of editorial matter, largely political. Editor J. J. Miner took no pains to disguise his personal or political prejudices. In the issue of April 7 he devotes his first column to the more than two millions of heart-sick Democrats in the Republican fold," his second to the sad deterioration of the United States Senate, completely debauched by millionaire (i. e. Republican) politicians,

and his third to the second candidacy of W. J. Bryan. On October 27 he blasts the editor of the Hendersonville Times, whom he calls "Bro. Allis," as "this enemy of right and justice"—the Times supported the gold standard. He underscores his own concept of right and justice by recommending the National Watchman as "one of the most reliable and one of the most intensely democratic papers that come to our exchange table."

In 1899 Brevard was booming; the population had doubled in the past two years, having reached 300 according to the latest census. In an open letter to an inquirer from Wisconsin our editor offers a variety of information: The county has 1270 registered voters, 130 of whom are Negroes. Lots in the center of town sell for as much as \$300; French Broad Valley land brings from \$25 to \$100 an acre, mountain land from \$3 to \$10. After praising the wide range of crops and the superior flavor of Transylvania vegetables and fruits he admits "money is scarce; farmers get none for their produce; corn pays all debts made to the merchant, and the merchant transforms the corn into cash without shipping it at about 50 cents per bushel."

The schedule of the Hendersonville and Brevard Railroad shows two trains daily, which cover their miles of track in an hour and a half. Tucked away on page 3 of our April issue, under the heading "To Benefit Brevard," we read that the editor is "authorized to announce to the readers of the News that the new cars which will be put on our railroad will bear the talismanic name of 'Transylvania Railroad.'" The H & B has been bought by the "wealthy" Toxaway Company, Mr. J. F. Hayes will be "installed as manager." Miner sees this as the most "important milestone to prosperity," but few solid facts can be fished from the flood of editorial cliches.

In the October issue from two brief paragraphs buried in "Town and County Items" we discover that a petition for a \$25,000 bond issue to extend the railroad to Eastatoe Ford, now Rosman, is said to have 650 signatures. Here, too, we read that floors are being laid in the McMinn block, that Bromo Quinine Tablets bear "E. W. Grove's signature on every box," that Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Lance are "happy in the possession of an embryo elector," and that as Mrs. Thomas Wood is spending the week in Hendersonville, "we are assured by telephone that Mr. Wood is 'the happiest man in town.'"

Advertisements of schools and colleges and two brief personal items give tantalizing hints on the status of education. The Davidson River school closes its fall session on November 3 and its teacher, Mrs. McClurken, has rented an office building in Brevard and will open a subscription school for "all earnest well behaved children not attending other schools." The newly organized Broad Valley Institute at Penrose in a five-inch advertisement promised "an education which has for its standard 'Christianity,' . . . Free from sectarianism." Charlotte and Rome, Georgia, advertise commercial courses; the Charlotte Commercial College has "a home" for young ladies and suitable boarding places for young men at \$10 per month. North Carolina College (State) announces entrance examinations at county seats and "an extraordinary course of instruction at extraordinary low price."

Firms as far away as New York and Iowa address the carriage trade on harness and "horse equipment." Asheville and Hendersonville clamor for Transylvania trade. A Patton Avenue dairy lunch offers pork chops and boiled ham with bread and butter (no margarine, gentle readers!), ten cents; extra steak, ten cents; ham and eggs, fifteen cents. Coffee is a luxury item at five cents. Asheville merchants bear heavily on carriages, laprobes, bicycles, and books, while Lynchburg, Virginia, will sell "foreign and domestic fruit" and buy Transylvania produce from bacon and venison through hides and feathers to flaxseed and chestnuts. Finally, a Hendersonville dentist will spend a week in Brevard six times a year.

But the blandishments of outlanders are tame and tasteless in comparison to the outpourings of local merchants, abetted by Editor Miner. Kilpatrick and Whitmire are content with the simple announcement of coffins from \$8 to \$20 and burial robes from \$1 to

\$7, but others are more expansive. T. H. Galloway offers "Last chance to enter a new suit at this term of Transylvania Superior Court," and the suit, together with shoes, hat, and shirt, are all going for \$9.50. W. L. Carmichael exhorts all citizens to "Bring your pocketbooks when you come to court" for his bargains are ready, but DeVane and Son are quite indifferent to cash; they do "printing in all its branches" and customers are invited to "Bring your work and keep your money at home."

New stores are opening and older ones enlarging; no one is more optimistic than R. R. Deaver who advises Brevard's 300 inhabitants that there are "10,000 Men, Women and Children WANTED to help us move our pretty stock" to a new double store at "prices too low to mention." We may guess at the Deaver prices from such offerings as these from the Racket Store: Ladies' vests, 4c; black hose, 4c; curling irons, 3c; dippers, 2c; collar buttons, 2 for 5c; thimbles, 1c; tin cups, 3 for 5c.

But it was on patent medicines that our editor most freely indulged his creative optimism. In the April issue he devotes a six-inch paragraph to a young man "Scared into Appendicitis" by reading a medical book, a newsworthy story, no doubt, because of the age and sex of the victim. There was no excuse for the readers of the Sylvan Valley News to contract appendicitis, the stone, night sweat, or "vapors"; our editor's advertisers had seeded every general store with panaceas for mind as well as body. The magic names bob up with local gossip in "Town and County Items" or are triggered under catchy headlines in the guise of news. "Spain's Greatest Need" turns out to be Electric Bitters . . . sold by J. E. Clayton," but how Spain is to make contact is not made clear. "A Narrow Escape" was the happy result of a tip to a dying lady to try "Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds" and "A Thousand Tongues" refers not to religious rapture but to Dr. King's universal cure. "Bismark's Iron Nerve" was the result, we learn, of perfect health; therefore, if one wishes to develop "indomitable wills and tremendous energy . . . use Dr. King's New Life Pills. Only 25 cents at J. E. Clayton's store." Z. W. Nichols, Brevard's druggist, doubtless carried these elixirs, as well as the Neurotico Tea and the Queen Compound for all female weaknesses including hysterics; but, like our modern druggists he was busy with other matters—for instance paint for the house, bicycle, carriage, and wagon and 50 samples of wallpaper.

Brevard was booming in 1899, but substantial foundations were being laid for sound growth. Store were being built, a new hotel was in prospect, the Transylvania Cattle Club was flourishing, and the Toxaway Company was moving in on the tide of the petition for a railroad bond issue. Three lawyer cards in Editor Miner's front column promise the progress will be duly monitored. From the very extravagancies of the Sylvan Valley News in partisan editorial and grandiloquent advertising we sense the lusty optimism of Brevard's first boom.



ROSMAN SCHOOL, 1906

Notes On The Red House, Brevard, N. C.

Prepared for the Historical Commission by
Martha Gash Boswell

In 1850 there were a number of lusty settlements in upper Henderson, now Transylvania County, but Brevard was not among them. The Davidson River Presbyterian Church was fifty years old and its school, established in 1824, was now Davidson River Academy. Just a year or two younger were the Baptist school and church at Cathey's Creek. At Penrose, Little River, Eastatoe, East Fork, Duns Rock, and Cedar Mountain close-knit communities had developed, supporting, if part-time and irregularly, their independent schools and neighborhood churches.

The site of Brevard-to-be was still a heavily forested promontory, crossed roughly north-to-south by the Asheville-Cherryfield Turnpike, sometimes called the Dug Road, while to the southeast a turnpike climbed to Jones Gap for a long, hard journey to Charleston. By this road stood the only house on the ridge, the handsome summer home of Lowndes of Charleston, built by a prominent Asheville architect, T. P. Ward, who also built the charming house on Chestnut Hill Farm, now the Barclay property.

In rugged contrast the second house on the ridge began as a rough but sturdy trading post, to which were attached rooms for the storekeeper and his family. Long known as the Red House, it stands on

its original handhewn logs at 412 Probart, but it has undergone so many remodelings that its present appearance gives no hint of its original form.

The owner of the trading post was Leander Sams Gash, a farmer of Quaker stock, who owned a large and expanding farm in the section now known as Blantyre. Gash had developed a brisk trade with Charleston and it was to furnish his wagons with hams and venison, hides and feathers, chestnuts, chestnut bark, apples, cabbage, wild honey and mountain herbs that he built a trading post at this lonely crossroads. The storekeeper was W. Probart Poor, so the trading post became Poor's Store.

The next building to be erected was the house of B. C. Lankford, now the summer home of Mrs. Towers. Alec England bought part of the Gash tract and built near the store, but in 1860 there were only a few scattered houses in the neighborhood. When the incorporation of the county of Transylvania was under consideration, it was first proposed that the county seat be placed on Gallamore Hill; but as this would interfere with the community race track, "L. S. Gash and others," i.e., Alec England and B. C. Lankford, gave fifty acres for a town site and the bill authorizing the incorporation of the county stipulated that the county seat be within one-third of a mile of the Poor store. Main Street was laid out on the line between the Gash and England holdings and the Gash store as a store was doomed. The new town gave lots for a Baptist and a Methodist church and lots were sold along Main Street and the money was used to build Brevard's first public building, the town jail, followed by a small wooden courthouse.

With the establishment of county court a considerable increase of population and new business opportunities were inevitable, but the tragedy of the Civil War put an end to ambitious plans for public improvements. Transylvania was torn by bitter conflicts between neighbors and within families. Union men pinpointed Poor's store as "just a nest of Confeds" and in front of the building a Union man was shot and killed, it is said, "from ambush." The house itself was set on fire by the torch of a bushwhacker held against the pine ceiling, but the fire went out. At the close of the war a group of Brevard and county citizens met representatives of a bushwhacking gang under the big white oak that once stood in front of the building and there paid three hundred dollars in gold for the promise of safety from gang murder and robbery. It is said that that promise was scrupulously kept.

The debacle that followed Lee's surrender radically altered the circumstances of the Gash family. Trade with Charleston had ceased in '61, work on the farm slowed to a standstill, and the family—father and mother, five daughters and a younger son—moved to Hendersonville. About this time the Brevard building was leased to W. T. Moore, it was extensively altered and expanded, and became, according to Foster Sondley's history, the first hotel in Brevard. No description or picture of the building is known.

In 1866 Gash ran for the State Senate on the Dem-

ocratic ticket in a campaign organized to put the carpetbagger out of the state capitol. His opponent was T. W. Rollins. At six o'clock on the day set for the official canvass Gash had defeated Rollins by 27 votes; at ten-thirty a weary representative from Madison County, who had been delayed by flood water, arrived with one vote for Gash and ninety-nine for Rollins, just four hours too late. So in the words of John Parrish, Gash was elected "by the will of the people and an act of God."

The winter of 1866-67 was a bitter one in Raleigh and the Senate met in a cold basement room, the beautiful State House being in such a dilapidated condition that it was unfit for use. Gash never recovered from the rigors of that winter.

After the father's death the Gash family moved to Brevard, taking over the Moore hotel and preparing it for boarders. The house was now or soon became a rambling clapboard affair painted red, with long double porches on the west, a high-peaked roof, a two-story dining room and kitchen wing on the east, and at the southwest corner a deep well, soon to be shaded by a towering willow that sprang from a discarded riding whip. As a name was now essential, the Gash twins dubbed it the Red House, a name long used in the Avery family.

The house was soon a popular resort for Low Country families. In the long parlor the Humes, the Erwins, the Pattons, and the Gashes put on Brevard's first amateur plays, at least one being *The Merchant of Venice*. The stable was well supplied with horses, the carriage horses Vance and Tilden recalling the bitter campaign of 1776, when Vance was elected governor and Tilden lost the presidency.

The late eighties were hard years for the Red House and for the county as well, marked for the Gash family by personal bereavements and for the county by a bitter depression that came to a climax in the panic of 1893. Mrs. Gash and three of her daughters died and in 1896 the family moved to a new home and the old house was once more for rent.

The house was used as a mission school by the Fitch Taylors, who had spent a year at the Joe Tinsley house on West Main Street. After the Taylor school was moved to the present campus of Brevard College, then the Institute, it was used as a private school, taught by the redoubtable Miss Stancil. Then it passed to private renters, growing shabbier as the years advanced, redeemed only by the great willow that shaded the well, a fine row of white pines, an oak grove to the south and the remnants of the old garden, that still returned in rows of daffodils with every spring.

In 1912 the house was completely rebuilt and the family returned to occupy one of its duplex apartments. Of the old home nothing except the setting was now recognizable. The kitchen wing, which was rolled down hill and still stands as Number 11 Railroad Street, gives some clew to the general outline of the Red House of the eighties. The house for all its changes has had only three owners in its 11 years and is now occupied (1961) by a granddaughter of L. S. Gash.



HOME OF John Flemm Galloway family — constructed 1778

Transylvania County's Roads And Bridges

BY MARY JANE McCrARY

TRANSYLVANIA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

In 1860 travel in all this region (of Western North Carolina) was rarely undertaken except on urgent and necessary missions. Even fifty years later conditions had improved but little. The chief reason was, of course, the lack of roads and the slow pace of getting about. A farmer going to market was all day on the road, or more likely stayed over at least one night in town or on the road back.

There is reason to believe, though there are no figures for it, that a hundred years ago there was more travel in canoes and flat boats along the French Broad River than there was in ox carts and wagons along the rough trails. The ways of this river are pictured in the writing of Wilma Dykeman in her "French Broad River" as a compelling factor and an exciting thing in the lives of the pioneers in this area, and that their first highway was the river. Because travel on land was arduous, going either afoot or on horseback, and because there was not a great deal of wheeled traffic, people took to the river. We know also from diaries and reminiscences that as late as 1860's people went to church in rowboats.

In the mountain wilderness road building came hard and late.

So, let us consider how long we've had our roads and, of course, if there were roads, if there were also bridges. Sometimes, yes, there were bridges, but more often our forefathers crossed streams by fords. Bridge building before the day of steel was complicated and costly, and liable to be swept out in the freshets and floods.

It will be obvious to all historians that the first travel in this region was by the Indians. They were satisfied with the trails made by buffaloes through the laurel thickets, around the rocky mountain sides, and following the mountain streams. The earliest organized expedition that came in this direction was the one led by DeSoto in 1540. It appears that it went a little south and west of our county.

To what has become Transylvania County, the first settlers came about the year 1787. There were no roads then, and travel by vehicle was always impossible and normally impractical. But everywhere there were buffalo trails leading from cove to cove and over the mountains into the valleys. As the herds moved westward, the Indians had their trails to themselves to go from one village to another.

These trails excited the admiration of the pioneer surveyors. They were of remarkable grade, and his-

tory tells us that they were as perfect as if they had been laid out by the best of engineering ability. Our settlers used these trails when they drove their cattle out to graze, and when they drove them to market. During the era of the American Revolution the CONTINENTAL ARMY had sent troops into these parts with cattle for grazing, to protect them from falling into the hands of the English Invaders, "KINGS MOUNTAIN MEN." And it was after the war that some of these same men came back into this vicinity to settle, and they resumed again moving their cattle over the buffalo trails.

Newcomers to our region came mostly in the saddle, if they were affluent, otherwise they came on foot. Some had oxen drawn sleds which carried their household gear, extra clothing, tools, etc. Even those who were wealthy in goods had to discard their possessions and travel light; they could only transport the barest necessities. On their shoulders the men carried their axes and firearms.

The difficulties were the main reason for the formation of Transylvania County. By 1859 there was a considerable population hereabouts, and the people began demanding a county seat nearer to their homes. Getting to court, paying taxes, and other matters had become burdensome because of the distance that had to be traveled to Hendersonville. The people felt themselves at so great a disadvantage that by 1861 they had resolved to seek a county of their own.

In that year they petitioned the state legislature to create a county on the upper French Broad River in which were to be several established communities, among them Davidson River, Estatoe, and Cathey's Creek.

The legislature acted favorably on the request, and Transylvania County was the result. In that time the French Broad River was an important avenue in the daily commerce and communication of the people. Along the banks of the river was the first road made by the Indians. It was improved by the settlers and to them it became known as The Path. It led from the high mountains to the foothills, where lived the seven other tribes of the Cherokees and the federation known as the Estatoes.

This "old pathway" eventually became the route for the main highway today. But first it was to serve not only the Indians, but also the English Traders in Charleston and Augusta who did a hide and fur business with the Cherokees far back in the interior. As a trading path it was only a rough track. Goods were carried by the pack horse and mostly by the "Indian Bearers." This road was discovered by the white traders from Charleston as early as 1732.

With the ingenuity of the white man this OLD PATH in the river valley was gradually widened, and opened up for the passage of wagons and stage-coaches. Thus the Estatoe Path and her by-paths became the highroad for the pioneers who were looking for new and unsettled land.

Augusta, Ga., and Charleston, S. C. were the two outlets for producers of this region. Great numbers of cattle, hogs, and turkeys were driven overland from the mountains to the north and west of us, and they came through here over the Estatoe Path. Early

writers tell of 150,000 hogs being driven to market on foot. An overnight stop on this stock-trail was often made in what is now known as Little River Community. It is told that there were pens for some of the stock, but if the drives were big, the animals just laid down in the road when a stop was made for the night. From this practice this place became known as "HOG TOWN."

This livestock route to Augusta and Charleston went along the east side of the river (French Broad), via Feed Rock and across the watershed which now belongs to the city of Greenville, South Carolina.

Where bridges were provided on the road of that day, tolls were charged for the privilege of crossing. These rates were fixed by the Court of Transylvania County. In places where there were no bridges, sometimes there was a ferry available, but more often the travelers had to cross by a ford. And again, where out-crops and ledges of rock jutted over the river bank, the traveler on this riverside road was forced to bypass by stepping off into the stream-bed and bounding over the boulders and pitfalls that were usually encountered there.

These projecting ledges and cliffs were serious barriers to the early road builders of the mountain area. When it was possible, they were avoided. But if that meant too much extra distance the barriers were removed. There was no dynamite at hand, so blasting out the rock was a problem which took a lot of ingenuity. One solution was driving slabs of dry wood in the rock crevices, and waiting for a rainy spell to swell the wood and crack open the rock. Another primitive method was to build a fire with heaps of logs around the rock, and after it had become fearfully hot, to dash water on it. This sudden cooling caused the rock to shatter, and it was then easier to chip it out of the way.

* * * * *

North Carolina had some of the earliest advocates of good roads. At first the benefits of this thinking were mostly conferred on the Coastal and Piedmont sections of the state. Then, about 1855 Prof. Elisha Mitchell, who was connected with our State University, began urging the fairness of good roads for the mountain counties also. It was he who proposed roads covered by heavy planks to prevent wheel traffic from sinking into the mud. Such expedients had been introduced in some of the northern states.

The first recorded state road-building in our section was managed by having the state purchase land and grant it to the people who agreed to build roads in exchange. On some of the road building about that time, the labor of slaves was employed to a great extent.

In the minutes of the Transylvania Court it is recorded that certain citizens paid a tax on the income they received at the toll gates and toll bridges. An example is a payment of tax on \$623.00 collected by P. F. Shuford in 1862. He had a toll bridge in the township of Little River.

In that period a road overseer was elected in each township. It was his duty to see that the roads were kept in condition for travel. The labor was provided by the tax polls living along the road and adjacent to it. The overseer was authorized by law to commandeer the labor of "hands living along the road,



THE WILLIAM KIMZEY OSBORNE FAMILY, 1903

and within certain fixed distances of it." One provision which I came across states that six days of maintenance was required of each tax payer annually. Any of those above the age of 45 years were exempt from this duty, and those unable to perform the labor required were allowed to hire substitutes in their place. In this and other ways the property owners were taxed for road building from the beginning of colonization until the 19th century.

There are deeds on record in Buncombe, Henderson and Transylvania Counties which reveal there was a road or trail through this region from South Carolina to Knoxville, Tenn. This road was along the course of the old trading path from Augusta, Georgia; reference is made to it in a conveyance in Buncombe County records which indicates or leads from a former reference as early as the year 1770.

There were other evidences in the old grants which indicate the well established paths followed streams through these Western North Carolina mountains. The old Indian Path which led across "Ben Davidson's Mill Creek" and across the Cherryfields is another reminder of the Estatoe Path through the French Broad Valley.

Following the Civil War there was a general spirit of improvement throughout this section. Public interest seemed then to have broadened out in travel matters and there was a growing awareness of the desirability of railroads as well as wagon roads.

The legislature was besieged by advocates of both railroads and public wagon roads, and numerous bills



A MOUNTAIN FIDDLER, among the hop vine



were introduced to provide for both kinds of travel.

Many or possibly even most of these bills anticipated turnpikes to be built both with and without state aid. This meant that Transylvania County shared in a limited way in toll roads in and through the county. As a consequence, there were toll gates on Laurel Creek Road to the Little River Township, a toll gate at Little River and one near Cedar Mountain on the Greenville (S. C.) road.

Later Transylvania County had some railroad financing as well as the building of same. There was some talk of a railroad to transport market produce, and to encourage the farmers around here to grow bigger and better crops. There had been very little incentive to produce more than enough for each family's own table.

In the settlement with the Cherokee Nation the State of North Carolina gained possession of a vast tract of Indian land in the western counties. This land was sold and the proceeds were allotted by the state for the purpose of road construction. As a result, there was great enthusiasm for organizing turnpike companies through this section.

The outcome was that this area received some of the Indian land money and the turnpike road which runs through Brevard was partially or entirely paid for with this "Indian-land" money. This road dates back to 1890 when the Toxaway Company was developing land and a resort in the upper part of the county. This road passed through the present town of Rosman and on to Cashiers in Jackson County. About 1905 the Town of Rosman was incorporated and the railroad station was called by that name, though the post office was designated Estatoe, it being on the Trading Path as known.

Records show that there were three bridges in our county at the time our county was organized, namely Island Ford, Graham, and Patton's Bridge. The minutes of the court contain records of these. There was only one covered bridge and that was over the French Broad River near Penrose, and it was used up to about 1918.

The ideal public policy in road building was promulgated by North Carolina legislature. This was expressed in the goal of each county, being placed within reach of its neighbor by a good road, with access also to a railroad and a good market town. This ideal was not soon realized in all parts of the state. In our county the ideal was a little more than a suggestion. The chief reasons, of course, were that population centered elsewhere, and our great asset, the mountains, were hindrances to road building and barriers to easy communication. Later we benefited from the conviction that industry would settle in rural areas that had good roads. The Ecusta Paper Corporation located on what was then known as the Vanderbilt Road at Pisgah Forest, which had been one of the first plank roads in our county. That road was constructed in that manner under the direction

of the late Dr. Carl A. Schenck of the Biltmore Forest project, about 1895.

From those experiments with plank and corduroy roads, and other systems, we were soon to be rescued by the shake-up in the whole nation's road building policy. This came with swift development of the internal combustion engine (or the automobile) which suddenly revolutionized local and long distance transportation, outmoded the horse and buggy and the old fashioned wagon.

It was foreseen that the county was too small a unit to manage satisfactorily their highway systems. The State of North Carolina assumed responsibility for a portion of its roads in 1921. A year after that (1922) Transylvania County claimed only 45 miles of highway through her domain, none of which was paved.

But when the demands for good roads began sweeping the county, and it was seen that a state with poor roads and highways would be a backward state indeed, all progressive states this side of the far west became highway conscious. Highway construction became an important factor in engineering science, and what had seemed impossible tasks were accomplished. Highways were laid out and constructed on a state-wide basis, with responsibility centered in a single, highly trained organization.

Roads in this area are both expensive and interesting because they are built over rocky mountains and under mountains and around mountains. On account of the many rock cliffs and steep mountainsides, surveying parties often use ropes and ladders to gain their perspective.

The highway mileage in Transylvania County now is approximately 156 miles, and all mud roads have been graded and rocked, and the people who live on them are happy. The black-top roads with rock shoulders are morale builders, and the people are proud of them. Many roads have been given the name of men who have been a moving factor in the community where these roads lead.

Roads are giving character to communities, and greater numbers of retired homeseekers, summer home builders, tourists and vacationists are coming to this wonderfully beautiful country.

Educational advantages and good roads go hand in hand to the front. Both have proven to be our county's greatest need. The following quotation is credited to the Hon. E. L. Doughton:

"Better roads mean better farms, better homes, better schools, better churches, better society, more time for study and recreation, consequently more prosperity, sunshine and happiness."

The late Hon. Furnifold Simmons left this message with his prayer, "Educate the people and there is no power in the world that will keep them from building good roads. Build roads and you cannot keep them from becoming educated."

"In The Shadows Of Mount Pisgah"

PRESENTED BY

TRANSYLVANIA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

A John B. Rogers Production

DIRECTED BY EDMUND NEJAIMEY

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WILLIE DOCKENS

MELL EVERINGHAM

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MIKE MASTERS

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JOHN BRADBURN

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(SOUND BY TAYLOR OF RALEIGH)

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Brevard Football Stadium

Brevard, North Carolina

PROLOGUE

"Your Royal Majesty, We Welcome You."

SAILORETTES

Camellia Tinsley
Lorraine Ashworth
Evelyn Conley
Belinda Shook
Bobbie Tinsley
Connie Gilstrap
Mary Louise Dale
Carolyn Henderson
Donna Gordon
Gayle Owenby
Martha Henderson
Linda Myers
Cynthia Ramsey
Linda Baker
Charlene Fisher

COLUMBIA

Sallie Weiss
Judith Buchanan
Majorie Henderson
Nancy Bradley
Barbara Ball
Edith McCall
Carolyn Smith
Pam Riddle
Sandra Kilpatrick
Sharon Scruggs

CADETS

Gail Buchanan
Judy Shook
Janice Huggins
Lynne Ashworth
Doris Phillips
Edna Sprouse
Margaret Johnson
Diane Monteith
Maxine Ashworth
Ann Collina

TRUMPETERS

Linda Grogan
Judy Caldwell
Mary Jean Coleman
Carol Coleman
Karen Galloway
Becky Burhans

RIDERS

Harry Blake
Bobbie Blake
Andrew Ashe
Ann Souther

Glennon Parker
Selma Parker
Les Bryson
Lucy Bryson

Ralph McGuire
Tommy Glazener
Walter Glazener
Henry Sitton

Episode I

"In the beginning God Created the Heavens and the Earth; and also the Red Man.

SQUAWS

Mrs. Don McCrary
Patricia Banning
Miss Sandra L. Smith
Mrs. Chas. M. Douglas
Mrs. Ray Burgin
Mrs. C. F. Allison
Mrs. Helen Perry
Mrs. Chas Landreth
Mrs. Paul Jones
Gladys Buchanan
Mrs. B. F. Robinson
Mrs. C. S. Moody
Mrs. D. L. Allison

BOY INDIANS

Mike Bartlett
Ridger Revis
Jerry Allison
Wayne Shook
David Perry
Terry Scruggs
Jeff Bradley
Andy Thomas
Farrell Buchanan
Billy Holden
Donald Brown
Jimmy McCormick
Ricky Morgan
Mac Gray
Bobby Taylor

BRAVES

Cecil T. Smith
Calvin Osment
Lester Perry
G. H. Chapel
Eugene Staton

Episode II

"Peace to Thy Soul, Oh Pilgrim on Thy Way"

PIONEER MEN

Arthur Gillespie
Ernest Gilstrap
Bruce Cassell
Greg Clark
Rabbit Henderson
Nealis Galloway
Bud Siniard
Bill Bryson
Tom Poor
Lester Bayles
Roy Lambert
Bill Siniard
Fred Barton
Luthe Fisher

PIONEER WOMEN

Mrs. Edwin Conner
Pat Talley
Martha Heath
Wilma Heath
Joyce Moody
Ann Hamerschlag
Barbara Jean Ballard
Mrs. John Sledge
Mrs. Marshall Loftis
Helen Meece
Mrs. Frank King
Mrs. Gregg Clark
Mrs. Mitchell Neely

PIONEER CHILDREN

Charles Galloway
Lamar Clark
Dennis Clark
Bobby Merrill
Ann Loftis
Cathy Dixon
Rita Sherrett
Nancy Meece
Jackie Gravely

Episode III

Indian scrimishes take place.

(cast same as in Episode I and II)

Episode IV

Treaties and Division of Land Between the Indians and White man

(cast same as in Episode I and II)

Episode V

“Six Days Shalt Thou Labour, and The Seventh Day
Is The Sabbath of The Lord Thy God”.

Minister: Bill Leonard (cast same as in Episode V)

Episode VI

“ ‘Readin’, ‘Ritin’, an’ ‘Rithmatic.’ ”

Teacher: Fred Davidson

Cast: God Bless them who could not make up their minds and who
are too numerous to name.

Episode VII

“The Birth of Transylvania”

MEN

Fred Owenby
Ccy Owen
Bob Hale
Jim Phillips
Bill Bridges
Bill Leonard
Jimmy McCormick
Doug Poteet
Jimmy Kellar
Bill Hayes
Harold Gray
Billie Johnson

WOMEN

Mrs. Fred Owenby
Anne Meece
Mary R. Robinson
Mrs. C. L. Clark
Mrs. Lilymae White
Helen Fullbright
Ruth W. Deitz
Mrs. Neva Harrington
Dot Case
Sue Ellen Hunter
Mrs. Robert Hale
Jean Dixon

Episode VIII

“Antibellum - Civil War”

(cast same as in Episode VII)

Episode IX

The Gay, Gay Ninties Days

MEN

J. W. Hooper
George Buchanan
Ghiz Siniard
Leo Reid
Frank Bridges
Spaulding McIntosh, Jr.
George Nicholson
Jack Wyatt
John Fisher
Frank King
Paul Kellar
Gaston Siniard
Tom Reid

WOMEN

Sudie Hampton
Rheuemma R. Reid
Susan Buchanan
Mrs. Spaulding McIntosh, Jr.
Mrs. Charles Paxton
Mrs. Tom Ramsey
Claire Bridges
Julia Fisher
Eleanor Dixon
Beckie Macfie
Betty Wyatt
Gladys Siniard
Jennie Siniard
Edna Wood
Mrs. Vernon Fricks
Jane Watson
Sue Cope
Janet Osborne
Nancy Davidson
Wanda Smathers
Sue Stewman

CHILDREN

Libby McIntosh
Linda Dixon
Leta Wyatt
Lisa Hill
Angie Paxton
Linda Siniard

Episode X

“World War I, In Flanders Field the Poppies Grow”

Episode XI

“Roaring Twenties, I Love my Wife, But Oh You Kid”

COUPLES

Bertie and Gene Morris
Edithe and Odas Crisp
Marilyn and Jim Phillips
Jack and Wanda Smathers

Nancy and Freddie Davidson
Eunice Waldrop and Jim Hicklin
Mac and Dot McIntosh
Sudie Hampton — John Fisher

Episode XII

“World War I, Iwo Jima”

GRAND FINALE

Entire Cast

(This Program is subject to change)

TROOP 61

Becky Paxton
Kathy Paxton
Debbie Link
Martha Misenhumir
Lynne Mitchell
Pat Stomey
Smyin Rogers
Peggy Messer
Betsy Nelson
Connie Lombardo
Jane Nicholson
Nancy Waldrop
Marcia Grogan
Missy McGibboney
Phyliss Bryson
Carolyn Russell

TROOP 55

Lissay Ayers
Mary Martha Bennett
Gloria Branen
Betty Sue Doris
Ann Cook
Nancy Hall
Sharon Hunter
Susan Miller
Lisa Hill
Ann Turner
Stephania Lombardo
Barbara Walcoyre
Christie Nerlinger
Kathy Rhodes

TROOP 85

Donne Irby
Linda Patterson
Lynne Stricker
Rusty Miller

TROOP 92

Jane Bennett
Carolyn King
Julia Duchart

TROOP 158

Martha Jean Arden
Nancy Combs
Beth Davidson
Linda Dixon
Carol Flynn
Pam Hall
Beth Heath
Nancy Meece
Marsha Nerlinger
Penny Orr
Angie Paxton
Lynne Pickelsimer
Hidi Stricker
Mary Weiss
Julia Clayton
Beverly McCall

TROOP 121

Debbie Bryant
Kathy Bryson
Nancy Paxton
Kathy Dennen
Kathy Hendrix
Anita Manne
Shelia Bannaganer
Geraldine Emerson
Nancy Owen
Mariana Bishop
Martha McLeod
Nancy Hammill
Irene Boggs
Mary Helen Huggins

TROOP 67

Penelope Jane Anderson
Mary Anne Brown
Amelia Frances Cox
Rebecca Jane Fluke
Sarah Frances Goodson
Susan Risa Huggins
Gwen Diane Monteith
Carolyn Frances Ramsey
Janice Lynne Ricker
Juanita Anna Roberts
Wilma Gail Taylor
Sharon Sue Tinsley

TROOP 162

Nancy Pace
Betty Jo Hammill
Deborah Carr
Mary Alice Paxton
Darlene Hogsed
Barbara Johnson
Gail Patterson
Leslie Grogan
Ann Houck
Paula Morris
Neva Lyda

TROOP 119

Barbara Barton
Sharon Callahan
Polly Camenzind
Susan Cantrell
Margaret Carter
Jenny Fortune
Sandy Gillespie
Marsha Gravely
Mary Ella Hamilton
Cathy Hunter
Cathy Hutchins
Kathy Loeb
Anne Loftis
Becky Leonard
Becky Morris
Jeannie McLarty
Patricia Osteen
Barbara Paris
Wanda Rice
Becky Rickards
Marguerite Ross
Becky Roy
Pat Sawyer



GROUP OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, 1911

Transylvania County

TAX LISTING 1862

County was districted as:

The following is the aggregate showing State and County tax listing:

| | |
|--------------|---|
| \$432,111.00 | Value of 144,268 acres of land. |
| | 304 white polls |
| | 4 Free black polls |
| 199,335.00 | 447 Slaves, owned by tax listers. |
| 82,690.00 | Due on debts and Cash on hand and deposits. |
| 1,412.00 | Income as listed by practicing physicians. |
| 44.00 | Studs, horses & jacks. |
| 623.00 | Income from Toll gates. |
| 938.00 | Value of Gold watches. |
| 639.00 | Value of Silver watches. |
| | 6 pianos @ 150.00 each. |
| 2,222.00 | Value of Jewelry. |
| 5,185.00 | Value of pleasure carriages. |
| 166.00 | Collateral estate. |
| 4,000.00 | Horses. |
| 3,590.00 | Mules. |
| 3,555.00 | Head of Cattle. |
| 4,200.00 | Household furniture. |
| 2,633.00 | Other Property. |

Record from the minute Document of Court of Transylvania County, May 20, 1861:

Officers were elected by the following Justices of Peace who were appointed for Henderson and Jackson Counties and serving in the new county of Transylvania.

Justices of Peace:

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. John Clayton | 12. L. S. Gash |
| 2. B. F. Aiken | 13. J. C. Lyon |
| 3. Jeremiah Osborne | 14. Azra Orr |
| 4. W. R. Galloway | 15. F. W. Johnstone |
| 5. A. D. B. Allison | 16. Charles Patton |
| 6. W. A. Paxton | 17. W. M. Duckworth |
| 7. Jas. H. Duckworth | 18. O. L. Erwin |
| 8. M. S. Thomas | 19. Albert Low |
| 9. B. C. Lankford | 20. J. W. Killian |
| 10. M. M. Wilson | 21. W. P. Poor |
| 1. James W. Clayton | |

First Tax Listers

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Eastatoe Company | Thomas H. Galloway |
| Cathey's Creek Company | W. A. Paxton |
| East Fork Company | B. F. Aiken |
| Brevard Company | A. D. B. Allison |
| Davidson River Company | Charles Patton |
| Little River Company | Jeremiah Osborn |
| Cedar Mountain Company | Azra Orr |

The first officers elected and sworn in May, 1861:

| | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| County Court Clerk | George Orr |
| County Sheriff | Robert Hamilton |
| County Coroner | Jas. W. Clayton |
| County Register | J. J. Wilson |
| Entry Taker | James Hamlin |
| Trustee | W. P. Poor |
| Surveyor | T. G. Henson |
| Ranger | A. D. B. Allison |
| Standard Keeper | A. W. Beck |
| County Solicitor | W. L. Love |

Select Court: Elected May 1861

Jas. W. Killian, Esquire, Chairman; L. S. Gash, Esquire; Charles Patton, Esquire; Jas. L. Siniard, Esquire; P. C. Orr, Treasurer of Public Buildings.

Building Committee appointed (by the Court) for the construction of Court House and Jail:

Wm. Deaver, F. W. Johnstone, O. L. Erwin.

School Board: (appointed by the Court)

J. C. Lyon, W. L. Lyon, P. B. Williams, Jas. W. Clayton, George C. Neill.

1865

Select Court: Robert Hamilton, Chairman, A. D. Farmer, J. L. Siniard; County Sheriff, George C. Neill; Court Clerk, George Orr; County Entry Taker, James Hamlin.

1866

County Solicitor: James J. Osborn.

1867

Select Court: Robert Hamilton, Chairman, J. L. Siniard, Samuel Wilson; County Coroner, James W. Clayton; County Trustee, George C. Neill; Treasurer of Public Buildings, B. C. Lankford; County Registrar, James Brachens, Jr.; Clerk of Court, George Orr; Sheriff, George W. Wilson.

1868

(It was this year that the county adopted the Commissioner form of government. Formerly being operated by the Court of Quarter Session.

Clerk of Court, George C. Neill; Sheriff, George W. Wilson; Register of Deeds, S. C. Davis; Commissioners: Richard Whitmire, George Clayton, Charles Patton, L. S. Neill, John Owen Sr.; County Treasurer, Robert Hamilton; County Coroner, Ephriam England; County Surveyor, M. Jasper Orr.

Wardens of the poor: (appointed by the Court)
Wm. Deaver, P. C. Orr, P. B. Killian, O. L. Erwin, B. C. Lankford.

Committee of Finance: (appointed by the Court)
John J. Wilson, B. F. Aiken, McKewn Johnstone.

Patrol Guard: (appointed by the Court)
Little River Company: P. C. Orr, John J. Wilson, Thomas Manders.
Davidson River Company: Charles Patton, J. D. King, G. C. Neill, P. M. Simpson.
Cathey's Creek Company: R. W. Hume, Joseph E. Duckworth, O. L. Erwin, Robert Whitmire.

YEAR 1862

The Select Court elected as follows:

J. W. Killian, Chairman; John C. Clayton, L. S. Gash.

County Trustees elected:

W. P. Poor, J. J. Wilson, Registrar, Jas. W. Clayton, Coroner.

Treasurer of Public Buildings:

P. C. Orr

Permanent Building Committee:

Wm. Deaver, B. F. Aiken, Jere Osborne.

Wardens of the Poor:

B. A. Truss, P. C. Orr, O. L. Erwin, P. B. Williams, James L. Siniard, Samuel Wilson, James H. Wood.

School Board:

Jas. C. Lyon, W. L. Lyon, G. C. Neill, Jr.

Tax Takers—same as appointed 1861.

Building Committee—Year 1862:

Wm. Deaver, B. F. Aiken, Jeremiah Osborn.

Register of Deeds—John J. Wilson (deceased)

Jason I. Shuford, appointed to serve until August 1862 term of Court.

AUGUST TERM OF COURT 1862

The following officers were elected by Judges from the several Companies of the County:

Sheriff, Robert Hamilton; Surveyor, Samuel King; Registrar, Ethan Davis; Salt Commissioner,

B. C. Lankford.

Patrol Guards appointed for one year by the Court:

Little River Company: J. I. Shuford, John Merrill, James Orr.

Carson Creek Company: B. F. Aiken, A. J. Loftis, D. P. Johnstone.

Cedar Mountain: M. S. Thomas, Benjamin Merrill, C. C. Orr.

Brevard or Town Company: W. P. Poor, Robert Jordan, B. C. Lankford, J. D. King.

Eastatoe Company: J. M. Aikins, Wm. Whitmire, Giles Glazener.

Cathey's Creek Company: Jacob Kitchen, W. C. Kilgore, Eli Hamblin.

1863

Tax Listers or Tax Takers for year 1863 appointed by Court:

Eastatoe or now Blue Ridge Company, Thomas H. Galloway; Gloucester Company, P. B. Williams; Catheys Creek Company, W. A. Paxton; Carsons Creek Company, B. F. Aiken; Brevard or Town Company, W. P. Poor; Davidson River Company, Charles Patton; Little River Company, L. S. Gash; Cedar Mountain Company, P. C. Orr.

Tax Assessors for the year 1863 appointed:

Eastatoe or Blue Ridge District, Albert Low, Jonathan Zachary; Gloucester District, W. R. Galloway, W. H. Robinson; Cathey's Creek District, O. L. Erwin, James L. Siniard; Carson's Creek District, F. W. Johnstone, F. Harris; Brevard District, J. W. Killian, Samuel Wilson; Davidson River District, W. Deaver, E. B. Clayton; Little River District, Jeremiah Osborn, J. W. Clayton; Cedar Mountain District, M. S. Thomas, John H. Allison.

Thread Agent appointed for year 1863: J. W. Killian.

Trustee to distribute money appropriated by State of N. C. for indigent families, J. W. Killian.

Warden for the Poor: 1863—Ephriam England.

Coroner elected for the year 1863: J. W. Clayton.

Trustee elected for the year 1864: W. P. Poor.

Treasurer for year 1864—Public Building: P. C. Poor. County Registrar, 1864: Ethan Davis.

Select Court 1864, elected by the Justices:

L. S. Gash, Chairman; O. L. Erwin, W. A. Paxton, J. W. Killian, alternate, B. F. Aiken, alternate.

Magistrates appointed for Tax Listers for year 1864:

Brevard District, W. P. Poor; Blue Ridge, Thomas H. Galloway; Catheys Creek, W. A. Paxton; Gloucester, B. P. Williams; Carsons Creek, B. F. Aiken; Davidson River, J. W. Killian; Little River, L. S. Gash; Cedar Mountain, M. S. Thomas.

Cotton Card Agent: Robert Hamilton.

Cotton Purchaser: Robert Hamilton.

Thread Agent: George Orr.

July Term of Court Transylvania County
1865

George C. Neill, Sheriff

Commissioners: L. S. Gash, O. L. Erwin, W. A. Paxton; Registrar, Charles Patton; Clerk of Court, George Orr; Coroner, James W. Clayton; County Trustee, W. M. Williams; County Registrar (1865) Ethan Davis; County Ranger, W. W. Moor; County Entry Taker, Joseph Hamilton; County Surveyor, Samuel King; County Processioner, A. D. Farmer; County Solicitor, J. H. Marin.



THE LUMBER INDUSTRY was one of the first payrolls in Transylvania county and this depicts the men and their method of getting the timbers out. Note Vernon L. Neill and John Tinsley in the middle.

Food Preservation In Early Transylvania County

BY MRS. ROY J. DeLONG

The accompanying paper has been developed from research relative to the foregoing topic, which was one of those assigned to many members of the Transylvania County Historical Association, in the spring of 1959, by its president, Oliver H. Orr.

Television numbed 1959 children won't believe that only in the preceding decade have modern living patterns been practiced in isolated mountain sections, especially in food preservation methods! For over 200 years their forbears remained aloof. Their self-sufficiency developed an enviable live-at-home program—they produced all their needs. Larders of their descendants today would be the envy of many Civil Defense votaries.

Their speech preserves idioms and pronunciations of Elizabethan English. They cured their ailments with folk medicines made from the multitude of native wild herbs. Their stimulants from their home stills, were later supplemented by those from government subsidized stills they managed.

Only within the past five years have commercially raised and processed foods with their attractive packaging, and quick preparation, tempted these mountain-bred folk despite their content of proven reduced nutrition and unhealthful blenders and preservatives.

With increasing acceptance of electrical helps, to those going in for filled freezers, even canning in glass the family's winter fruits, vegetables and meats, is passing out. Those who remember the dehydrator craze along with the Second World War, varieties of glass canning in that period and earlier — back through the home canning in tin sealed with hot wax, and in pottery jars, and beyond that to the pickling,

drying, and holding fresh in under-earth storage from freezing—wonder “what is the world coming to, next?”

While millionaires from Pittsburgh, New York and other metropolises played in ease and luxury at Sapphire, Fairfield, and before and after the “turn of the century” at Lake Toxaway, adjacent to them were families in the Gloucester section and in other parts of upper Transylvania, maintaining their off-spring as when the first explorers found this continent. Some of these rugged folk still practice these wholesome pioneer methods.

Houses were roofed with hand-split boards lapped like present-day shingles — floors were laid with hand-split puncheons; turned so they would fit tight, and bored through and locust pins put into the sleepers; doors were hung with hand-made wood hinges and locked with a slanted wood pin introduced into a bored hole. Wood locks were also made for the corn cribs.

At Keystone Camp, the oldest girl's camp in Transylvania, a set of these wood hinges is still in use that the first owner, Miss Fannie Holt, had made for display purposes, by Gene Bracken, when she built the camp in 1916.

The original homestead of Pos Bracken, father of Gene Bracken, off the Bracken's Creek road about a quarter of a mile from its intersection with the Lake Sega road, which is the partly re-located Cashiers Valley road, had walls just three logs high, yet ceilings were nine feet from floor. Like other early Colonial houses it had an open passageway between the living-sleeping section and the cooking-eating section.

Foods Buried In Winter

Transylvania county residents' many bank houses were an outgrowth of the big mounds in which the early pioneers covered and held many kinds of root vegetables. Every family aimed to grow enough potatoes—white and sweet—enough turnips, late cabbage, beets, carrots, parsnips, to bury upside down with sufficient earth covering to keep from freezing.

The mounds for the sweet potatoes were specially prepared. After the farmer had harvested and threshed his rye for grinding into rye flour, he used the rye straw to wrap the sweet potatoes. Then a vent was left open to this mound to aerate the sweet potatoes until their sweating period was completed—then it too, was covered with earth to prevent freezing.

In summer milk and butter were kept cool in a spring box—sometimes in a branch—before the spring house era—or where a spring house was too costly.

All kinds of vegetables and fruits were dried for winter use—especially those which did not adapt themselves to keeping buried in mounds or bank houses. As containers became available, pickling became more popular and varied, done both in wood and stone or pottery containers.

Around the "turn of the century" following a flair of canning in tin and sealing with hot melted sealing wax, dark reddish brown in color, and also with bits of Transylvania's widely distributed lead deposits, picked up and melted, came the advent of the glass jar with the zinc and china tops and rubber rings. Tiny iron pots like a cup with quite a long handle, were used in which to melt the sealing wax or lead. These pots or cups had a pouring lip to put a fine line of the wax where needed around the tin lid of a tin can or an earthen jar.

In homes where bonded liquor was used, the quart bottles were hoarded and passed to friends for containers for tomato juice and grape juice—poured hot into the heated bottles through a funnel—corked and the cork sealed by dipping the end in the hot molten sealing wax in its iron cup.

Farmers Were Coopers

Nearly every farmer was his own cooper—among some of those in upper Transylvania were Bill Whitmire at Reed Siding, and Hall Galloway near Rosman and Quebec. They used drawing knives and a round shave for the inside of their barrels. Wood staves of hickory or white oak were used, a lock being cut, and these drying perfectly tight around the barrels, having been soaked to bend properly. The first iron hoops that most of the residents encountered, were on barrels shipped to "Joe Silversteen's Tannery at Rosman." These were later dubbed "coca cola" barrels and brought tanning fluids. The reusers burned out the insides of the barrels, then used the round shaves inside; then scalded them to rid them of effects of the tanning liquids—before using them for their pickling or other food storage.

The upper Transylvania residents did most of their buying and selling in South Carolina, making up ox wagon trains—and if they didn't have oxen, they hitched up their milk cows. They put their homespun-and-woven sheets over their wagons, slept in the wagons over night on these trips, carrying both needed food and feed.

Women Shepherdesses

Much spinning and weaving of family clothing—and shepherding was done by women of upper Transylvania. On the family's fall market trips, they stocked up with chain to make the filling for the weaving which was supplemented with the wool thread they made by carding and spinning their home grown and sheared wool. Little woolen slips formed the children's undergarments, and linsey petticoats were woven for the women, also dresses.

One woman related: "Every place I walked, I carried my knitting—sometimes I carried a baby and walked and knitted, too—for there were always socks to knit, and sweaters to knit for the children to have something to wear. I knit sweaters and socks and caps in summer to sell so that I could buy shoes for the children. My oldest boy made me a spinning wheel in which I spun my knitting yarn.

"I used to walk hunting up the lambs that were turned out to get salt, and knit as I walked. We would put grease and gun powder on the lambs to keep the wildcats from getting them. Wildcats did not like the smell of gun powder. We usually had a lamb fattened for butchering, too.

"I always had a quilt made or a sweater knit for the midwife. That's all the doctor bill any of my 12 babies ever cost. A midwife delivered all but two of my dozen children, and my husband's mother was there to help with those two."

"I saved my supply of white flour sacks during each nine months to have diapers for each child."

Early Vegetable and Fruit Drying

In the Gloucester section, Aunt Pinella Galloway, wife of Clifford Galloway, used to put up cooked blackberries in stone or earthen-ware jars, covered with cloths dipped in beeswax. The jars came from South Carolina. This was before the advent of canning in glass. Berries, wild and tame, notably blackberries, were dried for winter use. All types of dried foods were stored hanging up in cloth sacks.

All kinds of fruits and vegetables were dried for holding through the winter. Some dried these things on their roofs, some built scaffolds and stretchers and dried them in their yards, some had lofts where drying could continue.

Over 50 years ago, just as shelters were built over the outdoor furnaces for molasses making, so big Charlie Owens built a sheltered furnace outdoors for his wife, the former Paralee Galloway, to use for fruit and vegetable evaporating. She practised fire-place cookery, and also had an evaporator for use in her fire-place. These could be used in wet weather while dry weather was essential to ordinary sun drying, and air drying.

Sweet potatoes were peeled and sliced and dropped in cold water to keep from turning black until a quantity was prepared to put out on the drying racks, just as apples were dried. Tomatoes and squash were also dried in slices.

Pumpkins cut in half and peeled and cut in a continuous strip round and round with a stick run through them, were hung up to dry. Beans were broken up and sun and air dried, as well as the famous leather britches which could be threaded and hung up in long strings in any kind of weather.

Mrs. Dock Owens, the former Docie Galloway, tells of drying apple peelings to hold for what was

called "cider," by letting water stand on them, to drink when there was a milk shortage. This is in line with the famous "apple water" remedy of the Polish and French of centuries past.

The tuty-fruity jar was a way sugar was used. When the first strawberries began ripening and any other early edible berries, they were placed in the bottom of the tuty-fruity stone jar and a layer of sugar on top; then came the raspberries, blackberries, peaches, and so on, each with its layer of sugar. Of course these were protected from gnats with the cloth tied over the top—most likely developing a fine brandy juice by the end of the season. A variety of wines were made by a sugaring-down process.

The apple cider barrel developed the family's annual vinegar supply. Some kept a second barrel for the hard, or vinegar, and the first, the newer, for the soft, or cider.

The old apple bin for winter apples, sometimes was filled with dry leaves to keep the apples from touching each other—or sometimes when the family lived near enough to a saw mill, saw dust was used. A delicacy was made by slicing apples as for drying, then smoking them in barrels; sometimes these were also sulphured.

Vegetables Also Pickled

Sixty-gallon barrels made by the coopers, were used in which to pickle vegetables by the same salting method as krauting cabbage. Corn, beans, bell peppers, cucumbers, onions, were among the things pickled, and often a combination of these, with a dash of "hot pepper," to make it "keep better," as well as to liven the flavor—taste better—was served.

Vines holding the full bearing of sweet or hot peppers, and of tomatoes, were often pulled up just before frost, and hung up in the house, on which the fruit continued to ripen and was picked when needed.

Eggs from the prolific laying season were stored in crocks of sawdust, salt, or corn meal for the off season use. Later they were put down in solutions of water glass.

Smoked Meats

Salt cured pork, beef, sun dried or jerked beef, bear, venison and other wild meats were hung up to be smoked over fires or hickory bark. Anytime hunger demanded, or that there was a lack of other meat or food supplies, was "open season" to those who had the ammunition to hunt deer and other wild game. The meat box or barrel in which the salt cured butchered stock was held, was a fixture in the provident home. Cured hams, shoulders and other meats were often hung in house lofts, or second floor rooms until needed.

There were smoke houses on many farms. One was at Tom Galloway's on the Rosman road, at the home identified by the rare antique blue glass in the door. However, many did their smoking in smaller amounts in barrels.

The lard crocks were also accompaniments of the butchering season, having been filled after the cut-up fat had been rendered in the big kettle or pot, leaving the fried-out skins and fibrous residue—cracklins—for the famous cracklin bread, a corn meal delicacy.

Any rancid lard or scraps of old fat were carefully hoarded for the next year's soap making. And for this purpose, wood ashes were held all winter; deep boards were set up between forked sticks to

hold a pile of them—or they were stored when possible in hogsheds to keep them dry until the soap making time. In the spring, water was added to ashes, and the resulting lye dripped into buckets, to put into the old grease. Result: the only soap known and used. And there are still provident home soap makers.

Home Tanneries

Also an outgrowth of home butchering, came another of the necessary home industries—tanning. The farmer used a big box or barrel or wash pot for tanning his family's shoe leather. Into this container he put the white oak ooze that took the hair off the hides. Then his family worked the leather soft with their hands. They tanned the ground-hog hides from which to make the leather shoe strings, and with which to tie harness.

Then followed the cobbler, with his specially constructed bench. The farmer, becoming shoe maker, too, pegged the soles onto shoes with tiny locust wood pegs. One pair of brogan shoes was all a person needed in a year. Every family had its shoe last on which to mend shoes, if not to make them.

A series of small tanneries developed within Transylvania county and around Brevard. There was the Ashworth Tannery at Little River. A bachelor, Charles Patton, operated a small tannery near where the Pisgah Candy company is now located on North Caldwell Street in Brevard. There was the McMinn Tannery in town.

The daughters of the late Rev. Judson Coren of the Lake Sega section, have an ancient bark grinder used to prepare bark for tanning at the tannery of their grandfather, Dock Coren. Remnants of their old corn grinding mill are seen in 1960 nearly demolished by fire, at their farm's roadside entrance. When Dock and son Judson accepted a turn of corn to be ground, they would grind as long as there was water in the forbay—then wait until the little stream again filled up the forbay, before they could finish grinding. Neighborhood children liked to bring the corn there because the grinding took so long.

Another son, Virgil, was a chum of Gene Bracken, son of the pioneer, Pos Bracken. Gene tells of the tannery vats in the creek above the mill and of a few vats buried in the ground. He laughs heartily about how he and Virgil as small boys one cold winter day, unknowingly stepped off into a vat, got completely drenched with tanning liquid and nearly froze before they got home.

"Wild Meat"

There is a story, not of the early part of the century Transylvania is commemorating in 1961, but of the early 1920's. Some up-country would-be hunters were well warmed by their visit to some moonshiners. They brought to a home in their hunting area, a furry creature one had bagged, and left it in the kitchen while they slept off the results of their visit and hunting. Later another imbibor came in, saw the catch, deftly used his hunting knife in perfect preparation for the roasting pot, put the dressed carcass in to bake, and when it was done to a rich brown turn, consumed a generous portion. No roast coon ever tasted so good. In the morning his buddies had a tremendous laugh on him when they showed him the white tipped, black circled tail on the pelt he had skinned from the animal. His good meal had been a triumph of proper butchering and cleaning.

Molasses Making

The sorghum molasses mill with its product mysteriously pluralized, produced a sweet supplement to the honey from the bee gums in the hollow trees. Every October, to complete this cash crop for sale or trade or home use, the sorghum cane grower set up his crusher-squeezer; his horse plodded round and round turning it, until the juice was all extracted from cane stalks, from which leaves and tops had been stripped before it was sledded to the mill and chopped. The juice was caught in a large kettle or drum and carried to the boiler. A fire was built under a huge iron pot in which the straw colored juice was boiled down to a pleasing thickness so that "they" could be held for use in earthen-ware jugs, and crocks, with lids. Neighbors who brought winter apples, corn meal or potatoes to barter for "them," had often brought their own crocks to be ready for the filling.

Later, boiling was done in the 12-foot-long slightly sloping galvanized steel trays on long, narrow furnaces fired with ash wood. Every six inches, baffles cross the trays, circulating the boiling juice and allowing it to flow toward the waiting containers, reaching the right consistency as it comes to the last groove. Seven gallons of juice are boiled down to one gallon of molasses. Another later development is the use of a tractor to turn the grinding-crushing mill instead of a horse or mule.

There was a molasses mill at Rock Brook; 50 gallon barrels were used beside the 3-roller mill, in which to collect the cane juice which was then carried and poured into the evaporator—the pan in which it was boiled until it thickened; then it was allowed to run into kegs with wooden faucets at bottom through which the molasses was drawn off into the waiting jugs. In 1917, 1918 and 1919 molasses brought a dollar a gallon.

Some molasses mills in the Gloucester section in early Transylvania which were operated until recently, some of which may still be in use, were run by: Nelson Kitchen, father of Overton Kitchen; by the Rev. J. T. (Judd) Hall, and by Hilliard Hall, and by Julius Owen. Robert Jones at Cedar Mountain, ran a molasses mill.

Tom Garren was a molasses maker in demand by many cane farmers. He made molasses at the old Joe Bryson place, at a mill one mile above Selica on the Jimmy Whitmire road; at Van Waldrop's on the Hannah Ford road, and elsewhere.

An early molasses mill in Transylvania was probably that of "Swamp" John Clayton, (who lived to 1868), father of Ephriam Bradshaw Clayton (1828-1929), known as Dock. A colored man, George Orr, was molasses maker at the latter mill, and many brought their cane for George to make into molasses.

Spring Houses

Transylvania County citizens used many spring houses during the period from early settlement to the time the electricity came through, which was earlier in some sections than others.

The date 1855 can be seen on the rock spring house at the present H. A. Vivian place on the Glenn Cannon road, known at that early period as the Gadsden place. There John Gadsden brought his Spanish bride and built for her many things of beauty and convenience. It became the Albert Jen-

kins place later. Albert Jenkins was the father of F. E. B. Jenkins.

On the former Frank Shuford property near Eagles Nest Camp off the Everett Road, is a rock spring house possibly 75 years old. This property is now operated as a dairy farm by J. C. Woody and brother, Nathaniel B. Woody.

There is a spring house at the home of Carl M. and Jane Jones at Cedar Mountain; also one at the old Scruggs home, the two-story house below the Glazener Cemetery, which burned down in 1959.

At the home of Mrs. Robert (Bob) McCall, on the Glazener Road near US 64, the spring house is a stone building, in which the spring bubbles up in a central place and goes through troughs. In this building apples and vegetables of all kinds were kept fresh for weeks.

In the Tom Ross place, later owned by Edwin Ross, a spring house was in use around 1890 up until 1947 when electricity was run up Ross road.

A spring house rocked all around is on the Thomas Taylor Patton place, Thomas Taylor Patton was the father of Mrs. Ed McCoy. He bought the place from Eli Patton of Asheville. On the former Dr. E. S. English property across from the Transylvania Tanning Company site, was a cement block spring house with water covered troughs in floor on either side of a stepping curb of cement.

A spring house can still be seen on the Wilburn Hale place—many years ago known as the Ben Aiken place, and successively recently owned by S. E. Varner, Jr., and Charles Fowler.

Prior to 1835, Ben Merrill built a stack chimney home on the Merrill place in the Little River section, where now his grandchildren, Benjamin Franklin Merrill, and Miss Sallie Merrill, children of Ben Perry Merrill, live. About 1835, he built a spring house to which the water was brought from the spring on the mountain, through wooden log pipes ten feet long.

These wooden pipes had been bored with a long auger on a long handle. In 1847 a house was built with chimney at each end. The spring house had several depths of troughs with the water running through to care for the different height jars; milk was in some—kraut, and pickled beans in others, because keeping the jars in water in winter, kept them from freezing. In one side the meat was hung, because when hung in dwelling houses, the grease might drop on the floor and be too hard to remove.

There were two wooden spring houses on the Merrill places.

At the Ephriam Orr place, Pisgah Forest, the red house now owned by Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Feaster, the water was brought through wood logs to the house and to the spring house.

A covered foot bridge joined the yard and the house place, having been built by Mrs. Feaster's and Miss Sallie Merrill's great-grandfather.

At the M. L. Hamilton place, adjoining B. F. Merrill's in Little River, is a wood spring house, with rock base, and rock walkway through the water.

The H. P. Moore family built a spring house of rock; this place later became the E. W. Medford place.

Another spring house was at Uncle Sammy Merrill's place, which was formerly the Pearson family's property.

Ice Houses

An ice house was maintained on the former Gaston Siniard place, now Camp Carolina, probably built more than 65 years ago, and continued by his son, Columbus Siniard. The house was hollowed out of the mountainside, with a front a foot thick of boards with sawdust packed between, and an airtight door. In this were packed layers of ice cut from the lake, with sawdust packed between. This ice kept till up in July and August, and occasionally some was given and sold to friends, but most was used by the family.

William Hix Allison, who followed his father Alexander Allison in the development of Deer Park Home, the location of which was a mile and a half from Brevard on the present new highway US 64, near the present Straus school, not only did much to preserve the local deer and wild-life, which ran free around his boarding house, but also had an ice house similar to the Siniard's. This helped a lot to please the select paying guests at the widely-known Deer Park Home.

The Perry Orr family lived on E. Main St. where the Vagabond Trailer restaurant is in 1960. At that early period there was no Johnson Street to separate it from the lot formerly owned by the late Dr. J. B. Wilkerson, 208 E. Main St. Down the hill back of the Wilkerson house, space had been cut out of the bank for an ice house; it was packed with sawdust and entered by a heavy sawdust-packed door. The Orrs, the family of Luther Aiken, father of Miss Hattie Aiken, 212 E. Main St. and others, shared the ice house. William Aiken, grandfather of Miss Aiken, who lived across the street, was one of the men who cut blocks of ice from the French Broad river and hauled them there in a two-horse wagon. Mrs. Wilkerson thought the ice house remains were from an old well when she moved there but Miss Aiken told her of the many apples stored in the ice house when she was a girl, after its original use was discontinued.

From 1908 until 1912, J. S. Bromfield brought ice by the railroad car load from Spartanburg and sold it to local customers from an insulated storage building near the Brevard depot. In 1912, he set up a steam plant for the manufacture of ice at the same location, which plant was operated until he sold it to the Perkins Oil Company in 1945.

The Purity Products Company, an electric operated ice plant, was started in the mid-1920s by a corporation.

Canneries

At the worst of The Depression, 1932, a Works Progress Administration Project of gardening and canning was undertaken in Transylvania County under leadership of agriculture teachers. Julian A. Glazener, County Agricultural Agent, and County School Superintendent J. B. Jones asked Flave H. Holden to put in two hours a day supervising the project. The need for it was so great and Mr. Holden's interest grew so much that soon he was putting in seven full days a week. The project included growing of a ten-acre community garden on the property of Miss Julia Deavor, on the Davidson River road. One of those who helped grow the garden was Randal J. Lyday, who had just been graduated from North Carolina State College.

According to Mr. Holden all the uptown store

buildings were empty. In the one where Trantham's store is now, was located their sweet potato storage. The first year 480 bushels of sweet potatoes were grown on two acres. Two women, Minnie Newton and Lela Galloway, dug most of these potatoes. After they had been canned, they were stored in the same building until given away.

The canning equipment consisted of a 10-horsepower upright boiler, heated by wood and coal, which could be loaded on a truck and taken from place to place. Canning was done at Rosman and at several other places in the county. Accompanying equipment consisted of two sealers and two high pressure cookers, each holding 32 quarts, so that a total of 64 quarts could be processed at one time. In Brevard this equipment was operated in the Tinsley building, torn down to make the parking lot for the First Union National Bank of North Carolina in Brevard.

Mrs. Annie Corn, now Mrs. Gray of Etowah, was in charge of the women in the cannery and Otho Scott fired the boiler and processed the vegetables and other foods canned. Mr. Holden says they canned everything—including pickles, kraut, pickled beans. A lot of canning was done in glass. Gardeners brought their own containers. In one year the cannery used a solid freight car-load of cans paid for by the WPA.

Anyone on relief received supplies from these canned foods. From this project, started the first school lunch rooms in the county schools.

Before the close of the project, some canning was done at a building south of the present junior high school.

A Later Cannery

Coming down to Second World War time, a cannery was maintained in Brevard in a building back of "The Hut" on Broadway south of the present Junior High School. This was sponsored by the Department of Vocational Agriculture of the Brevard High School, from 1943 to 1950, and was a summer project.

The first four years the cannery was directed by C. L. Simmons, teacher of Agriculture in Brevard High School, assisted by former Brevard school principal, J. E. Rufty. The next three years it was directed by Randal J. Lyday, high school agriculture teacher, again assisted by Mr. Rufty, and by Otis Shipman, another former teacher in the county.

Housewives took their fruits, vegetables and meats to the building, were given every facility with which to prepare them; the products were processed and sealed in tin at a minimum cost for containers. The cannery closed in 1950 because of lack of patronage justifying the expense of keeping it operating. According to Mr. Lyday's estimate—during the cannery's service, an average of about eight to ten thousand cans were processed each year.

In 1900 Brevardians organized their first water company, a stock company. Improved water supplies, together with ever increasing sewage disposal controls, and the ever farther penetration of electric power to the remote areas, have contributed their share to safer and more adequate food preservation.

In comparison with the pioneer methods of food preservation and their attendant needs supplied to Transylvanians of 1861, the centenary of this county finds even its isolated areas teeming with methods, processes and equipment modern to the 'nth degree.

Recent Progress In Transylvania County Highlighted

Ordinarily the chronicler of community progress will expect industry and commerce to challenge his principal attention. For the decade of 1950 and 1960 in Transylvania county, the social gains have been most notable. They have, in fact, been spectacular.

In this category are the gains made in religion, education, the medical arts, super highways, public health, and residential construction.

This does not mean, however, that progress in industry and agriculture in Transylvania county has been slight. The contrary is true. But constant gains are expected from the commercial pursuits.

Transylvania's largest industry, the Olin Mathieson Chemical Corporation at Pisgah Forest, spent several million in 1951 building a cellophane plant adjacent to its paper operations, and in 1958 added paper machine No. 10, the Cherokee Arrow. This machine is recognized as the largest paper machine in operation in the United States for the production of the kind of lightweight papers which Ecusta makes.

Other industrial progress during the past decade was the purchase of over 10,000 acres of land in the Buck Forest area of Transylvania, with a part of this tract being in Henderson county, by the E. I. du Pont de Nemours and company, of Wilmington, Delaware.

In late 1957 and early '58, Du Pont erected the nation's first plant for full scale production of hyper-pure silicon in the midst of this secluded wooded and mountainous site.

These developments indicate definite progress in industry in Transylvania county from 1950 to 1960, and they are matched by the advances in the intellectual and social fields.

It can be remarked that Brevard has long been distinguished in its tourist promotion as a city of churches. In the last two years it may be said to have become a "city of NEW churches."

Handsome new edifices have lately been dedicated by the Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian and Lutheran congregations in Brevard, and new church buildings in rural communities are being built by St. Timothy Methodist, Glady Branch Baptist, Temple Baptist, Faith Assembly and one or two other rural congregations.

A review covering church progress of the last 10 years in the county would take into account no less than 10 or 12 other new rural churches, and would make note also of the fine Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Brevard, which was completed and dedicated in 1949, just a few months too early to come within the decade just closed.

Although no precise audit has been attempted of the cost of the town and county's new churches, cur-

sory calculations show the total to be well up in the bracket of a million and one-half dollars.

Next, in the intellectual category, comes education. Here the leading achievements are in the new structures on the campus of Brevard college and at the plant of Brevard Senior high school.

Since 1950, Brevard college has had a steady expansion in its physical plant, its faculty, and its student body.

New buildings, including women's and men's dormitories, administrative offices, auditorium, faculty and student lounges, a dining hall, and class rooms have been erected at a cost of more than a million dollars.

At the present time, construction is under way on a new science building, which is being erected at a cost of \$235,000 by the Jerry Liner company of Lake Junaluska.

In addition there is now under way an elaborate earth leveling project on a 50-acre site for athletic fields, gymnasium, and stadium.

Also new in Transylvania county are the Albert Schweitzer Memorial hospital, a rural community establishment in the Balsam Grove area, and a new health center in Brevard. Cost of the latter was approximately \$26,500.00.

Brevard has received statewide recognition for its new campus-type senior high school layout. This modern educational institution represents an outlay of nearly a million dollars with several fringes to be added.

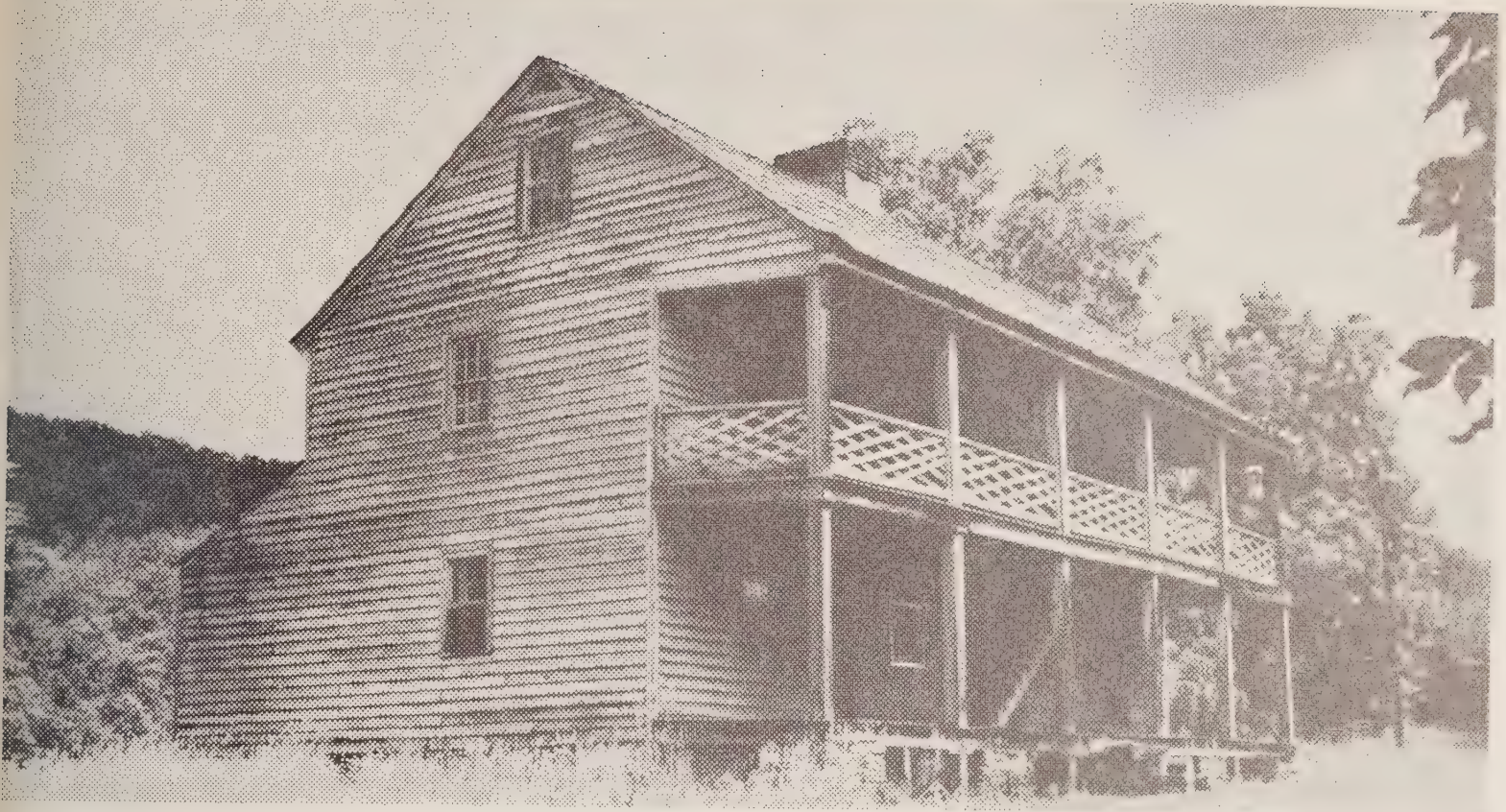
At Quebec, in the mountainous section of the upper French Broad valley, there is a handsome new rural school in brick, steel and glass, taking the place of Quebec's ancient and drafty structure which reached back to the days of kerosene lamps and wood-burning stoves. This is the T. C. Henderson school.

During recent years a beautiful new gymnasium, the Silversteen Gym, was erected at Rosman across from the new Methodist church.

Medical clinics in Brevard have been constructed during the past 10 years by Dr. Charles Newland and his associates; Drs. Julius Sader and R. L. Stricker; and Dr. Walter Clayton, dentist.

In the early 50's, another clinic was erected by the late Dr. J. F. Zachary, and this suite of offices is now being occupied by Dr. Carol Grahl.

Another mark of progress in the county which deservedly takes great pride is the Transylvania county library, now two years old. It also houses the office of the chamber of commerce and tourist information bureau. Other outstanding additions are the Professional building and the Legal building.



HOME OF William Deaver, constructed 1832, now owned and occupied by Carl Smith family

The Citizens Telephone company, an independent corporation serving Brevard and Transylvania county, is in the process of an important expansion. When the program is completed, the company expects to spend in excess of two million dollars.

A contract has been let for a new \$165,000 switchboard being specially built for this county by the Stromberg-Carlson company of Rochester, New York.

The company has purchased a site on East Main street, adjacent to the Masonic Temple, upon which a building will be erected to house the company offices and the switchboard.

And speaking of the Masonic Temple, it was erected in 1952 and formally dedicated last August.

During 1958, the Brevard Federal Savings and Loan association moved into a handsome new colonial type structure, costing more than \$55,000. Jerry Jerome, the president, reports that assets of the company increased from \$1,779,774.63 in 1950 to \$6,747,325.91 in 1960. This is real progress.

Just last fall, the Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company moved into its handsome new early American type supermarket on South Broad street. During the past 10 years, the Winn-Dixie super market, Kearns super market and Harolds super market have all been constructed.

A new army reserve center costing more than \$78,000 was opened and formally dedicated last spring on French Broad street opposite Brevard college.

Other new buildings in the community include the Biltmore Dairy farms dairy bar and warehouse, Berry's Drive-In, Triangle Drive-In and Al's Drive-In, Whirlpool Laundromat, the Launderette, Nu-

Way Cleaners, and Parsons Jewelry.

Numerous business buildings, including Pearlman's Furniture company, Austin Studio, the Waltermire hotel, First Union National bank, Belk's, Houston's Furniture company, Economy Auto, Schulman's and others have been vastly renovated.

Progress in highway work has also been notable, with the new four-lane highway from Pisgah Forest into Brevard being the most outstanding.

US 64 from Hendersonville to Brevard was relocated, and other highways were much improved.

Beginning the 10-year era of progress was the establishment of Radio Station WPNF at the city limits of Brevard on US 64.

Progress has been made in tourist accommodations, more particularly in the last five years. There are three new motels with some 60 units in and near Brevard, a new inn in the mountains near Rosman, and of the old established places in Brevard, the Colonial Inn and the Pierce Moore Hotel have been renovated and enlarged.

The tourist committee of the chamber of commerce has been developing an active promotion program to identify Brevard as the southernmost entrance to the Blue Ridge Parkway, since the parkway dips furthest south at Beech Gap, which is in Transylvania county at a distance of about 30 miles from Brevard.

The committee has also developed and is preparing to have marked a system of mountain roads which lead from South Carolina via US 276 to the Pisgah National Forest and the neighboring points of great tourist interest, such as Mt. Pisgah, the various fishing and camping places in the Forest, the Blue Ridge Parkway, and the Great Smoky Mountains.

This system has been named the "Transylvania Trail," and it provides three choices for touring the county, the Forest, and other alternates.

The Parkway at Beech Gap can be reached by an access road from US 64 west of Rosman. Part of this road has been surfaced. Another stretch, on the upper end, is through the Pisgah Forest. Between these two links are a few miles where new right of way has to be located and grading and paving will have to be done to put the road in desirable condition.

In Agriculture County Agent James Davis has kept records showing that farm income in Transylvania county had a rapid increase in the years between 1956 and 1958. In the latter year the total earnings from crops, livestock and forestry, plus ASC payments aggregated \$3,873,228. Much of this increase was accounted for by expansion in the poultry industry, which expanded from 18,000 laying hens to 42,600 hens, and from increases in the number of beef cattle fed and increased vegetable and corn acreages.

In 1959 there was continued gain. The capacity for laying hens had expanded to 60,000. There were 3,000 acres in vegetables and the years total farm and forestry income combined was calculated by Mr. Davis at \$3,889,920, a gain of some \$26,000 over the record figure of the year before.

Since 1953 when Transylvania first entered the Western North Carolina Rural Development contest, a local community has been one of the top three winners.

Located in lower Transylvania are the Thomas Farms, the largest grower of gladioli in Western North Carolina.

Population-wise, Transylvania was one of the few counties in Western North Carolina to show an increase in the 1960 census over 1950. The gain was from 15,321 to 16,372. Brevard proper increased 25 per cent, with the 1960 census being 4,857.

Transylvania is recognized as a mecca for summer camps, and due to the outstanding Transylvania Music Camp, the community has gained the slogan, "The summer music capital of the South."

There has been a boom in residential building in Brevard and throughout Western North Carolina during the past 10 years, and numerous sub-developments have been opened up.

The biggest news along this line in 1960 was the beginning of the restoration of beautiful Lake Toxaway. This millionaire's vacation mecca went out with the flood of 1916, but present indications are that the restored dam will be completed within the next 60 days.

Progress at the Olin Mathieson Chemical corporation at Pisgah Forest is another story within itself, but here are a few brief facts.

At the beginning of 1950, Olin Industries, Inc., now Olin Mathieson Chemical corporation, bought ownership of the Ecusta Paper operation and decided to enter the cellophane manufacturing business.

The following year the cellophane plant went into operation. And by the end of 1951, employment in the two divisions, Ecusta paper and film, had risen to 2,000.

The total payroll at that time had risen to six and one-half million dollars. As one measure of growth

and improvement, the 1958 payroll of the two divisions, counting only those employees at Pisgah Forest, was almost 11 million dollars. Employment at that time had reached 2,350.

Continued progress was made during 1959 and '60, and today the payroll and the number of persons employed are at a record high.

One of the community's finest assets is the Transylvania Community hospital, which is rated as one of the best in the state.

The history dates back to 1922, when the late Dr. R. L. Stokes began his Riverside Sanatorium near Brevard.

Capsule highlights of the history of the hospital include the establishment of the Lyday Memorial hospital; the founding of the present institution in 1942; the announcement of plans to build the Harry H. Straus wing in 1947; and the vast growth of the institution in the past decade.

With an eye to the future, the board of trustees has employed Jacque Norman, of Greenville, S. C. a hospital consultant, to develop a long-range plan of expansion.

And now, here is the Du Pont story in a nutshell.

In 1956 the company purchased the 10,500 acres of land and construction on the silicon plant was started in the spring of 1957. The plant site was located on a portion of the tract known as the Buck Forest area. Approximately 10 acres were cleared in this heavily wooded area to accommodate the one-story structure which has somewhat over 60,000 square feet under the roof.

The six million dollar Brevard plant went into operation to produce hyper-pure silicon for the electronics industry in February, 1958. North Carolina's Governor Luther H. Hodges delivered the dedicatory address.

The number of employees gradually increased, and at present, approximately 265 persons are employed at the local Du Pont location.

This plant uses about 325,000 gallons of fuel per year and 170,000 gallons of water per day. The air is filtered and changed every two minutes and employees wear white uniforms and surgical caps in order to maintain a "hospital clean" atmosphere in which to make silicon. A product purity level in the range of less than one part per billion impurities is necessary in order to make the quality of silicon demanded by many customers.

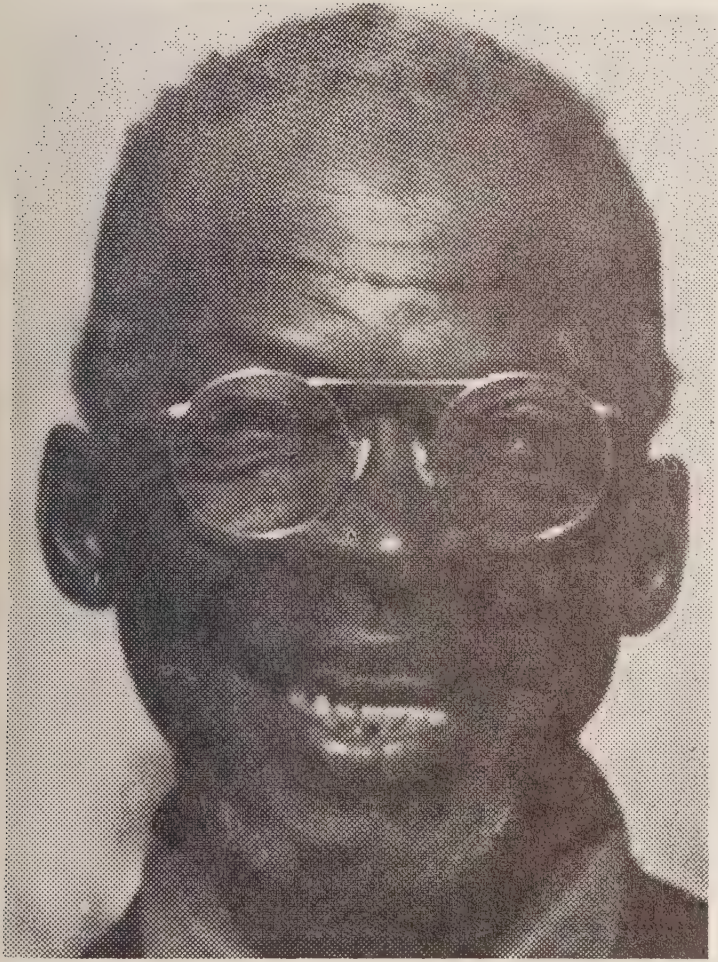
The annual payroll of the Du Pont installation at Brevard is around one and one-half million dollars. Its purchasing requirements run to nearly two and one-half million dollars annually from some 200 area firms. Purchases are made locally as far as is possible.

The principal end-uses for silicon are electronics devices such as transistors, diodes and power rectifiers. Silicon in its hyper-pure state, as made by Du Pont, ranges in price from approximately \$90 to over \$1,500 per pound. Approximately 10 to 15 cents worth, however, makes up the heart of these electronics devices.

As Transylvania county observes its centennial in 1961, it can look back over 100 years of progress, with the greatest era of advancement being made between 1950 and 1960.

“The Colored People Of Transylvania County”

1861 - 1961



THE WELL-KNOWN LACEY ALLEN, an
extraction of the slaves of 1861

Scholarly in presentation, and painstakingly just in evaluations is the treatise, “The Colored People of Transylvania County, 1861-1961” by Nathaniel B. Hall, M. A., Catholic University of America, from which the following is briefed. The book was prepared at instigation of Transylvania’s Centennial Commission and should remain an invaluable record. The author suggests it may serve as basis for more research.

Carrying out the Emancipation proclamation after the Civil War, some owners who freed slaves follow: O. L. Erwin, Glouster freed Bill Erwin; Sam King of King’s Creek owned and freed Lish King; Robert Whitmire of Cathey’s Creek freed Jack Johnson, the Johnstones, who owned land near Coopers cemetery, freed several; Lem Brooks freed Bill, James and Albert Erwin; Eli Patton of

Davidson River probably freed Jesse and Riley Gaston, Ben Aiken of East Fork freed Jane Hall nee Rhodes, and others; B. C. Lankford of Broadford freed Tony Bowman; a Colonel Hall of Franklin freed James B. and Eleck Hall and Jim Deal. One of the Claytons probably of Davidson River freed Wiley and Sophia Hunt. In 1863 were listed 586 slaves; in 1950 there were 616 colored listed.

Oldest Baptist worship noted was in Davidson River section on land of Joe Patton, about 1865; then organization of the church which first met in a blacksmith shop on land of Frank Allison — the pastor Rev. Bob Walker, called French Broad Baptist, some early founders being Miner Stewart; Jane, wife of the Pastor; Emily McJunkins, Cynthia Hemphill, Reverend Frank and Charley Hemphill; Frank Brown, Asa McJunkins, Tom Hemphill, Emiline Smith, Doc Smith, and James Gash.



AUNT SOPHIA CLAYTON HUNT, at the age of 114 years, a slave belonging to the Clayton family who was freed in 1864

The oldest church seems to have been established at Shady Grove, about 1868 near Island Ford Bridge, about three miles from Brevard and a mile east of Rosman Highway. It was moved because of highway construction. There is some evidence this church was organized at Cathey's Creek. Hall traces developments on down to the present influential Bethel and Bethel "A" churches.

He further noted the Mills Chapel African Methodist Episcopal church, first meeting in a log cabin; in 1896 in a building on Carver Street next to Betsill's Barber Shop, razed in 1954 because of its deterioration. Its last minister was Elder J. G. Williams of Black Mountain.

In 1919 was founded a congregation of the Fire Baptized Holiness Church of God in a log cabin on Oakdale Street. Other buildings followed, the last in disuse, the last person to serve as pastor being Rev. James W. Mitchem.

During the years there have been various secret societies—Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Masons, still existing as Mountain Lily Number 117; Knights of Pythias; Eastern Star; Royal and Lady Knights of King David; Household of Ruth.

Some schools were: Shady Grove, erected in 1892, Ben Herrin of Arden, first teacher; the forerunner of Glade Creek School was in the French Broad Church, burned about 1866, with Jim Killian, probably from Henderson County, first teacher. Gertie Hemphill, Hall says, would be remembered as one who has given long years of creditable high quality teaching to the county. The Everett School had Annie Gash for its first teacher. The first public school for colored in Brevard was in a two room cabin, near the Doctor Zachary home on Rice Street, taught by a man named Jeter from Henderson County; he traces the schools and sponsors to the present modern Rosenwald school. He especially lauds Wilkie Johnstone's 40 yrs. of outstanding teaching service, noting that her philosophy was "to teach them to read, so that they were able to educate themselves." He gives due credit to Ethel K. Mills, present principal, and refers to the Rev. J. L. Jones as largely responsible for the school's athletic program, competing with schools in other cities in North and South Carolina. Some schooled here now teaching, after completing college are: Arnetts Benjamin and Annie Marie Hutchinson.

In business, he cites Jim Aiken, who about 1890 started Brevard's first barber shop and cafe for white people — later adding a store; carried mail from the depot to post office after the train came, and volunteer fireman, which resulted in his tragic death upon the explosion of the two wheeled fire extinguisher. All business houses closed for Jim Aiken's funeral held from the white First Baptist church.

About this time he says there were two government distilleries employing about twelve colored men — those were Lon and John Cooper, and of R. J. Pickelsimer.

James H. Johnstone operated a movie at Davidson River about 1909, later D. C. Hall and Alf Lynch showed "colored shows" in the school building. Still later in a cafe, S. Carver Street, owned by Herbert Langston, moving pictures were shown.

Next to Jim Aiken, the other most successful business manager was that of "Jip" Mills. He started a store, about 1917, operated it until his death in 1956.

Victor Betsill has operated his barber shop since 1924. Arabell Killian operated her grocery store from 1935 until 1960. Frank Killian is store keeper and building contractor; Guillie Glaze and Avery Benjamin also contributed to the construction of homes for our people. Charles Lloyd has recently been retired as a qualified mail clerk, Fred Mills, in spite of loss of an arm in a Tannery accident, is a stone mason; Arthur Lynch, an artist and sign painter. Cafe operators have been Roy Whitesides, Grady Elliott, Mattie Pierce, Norvail Mooney, George Wilks, Herbert Langston. Two licensed beauticians are Callue Mills and Evon Kelley. Edward Killian, Notary Public and bondsman, taxi-cab operator. Bill Jackson came to Brevard from Gaffney, S. C., with construction company who put the town's water and sewerage system, Streeter-Anderson, was foreman of the group which laid all the original pipes. "Dee" Dudley and "Will" Ballard, fired steam boilers at the Tannery for many years. Julius Whitesides was fireman of the train which ran from Brevard to Hendersonville. "Alf" Benjamin was the first of several porters on that line, others being Will Feathestone, Sol Patton, Jim Richardson and John Ponder.

Etta G. Hall and Lela B. Dudley were midwives from many years. An outgrowth of the semi-professional baseball teams, from Brevard since 1929-Arthur Hefner, Jr. in 1949 joined the Philadelphia Stars of the Negro Major League, playing several years, William Anderson played in this league several years.

Boy Scouting in the colored troupes is having a fine influence on its youth. In all the recent wars, there are notable colored representatives from Transylvania.

Perhaps its crowning race achievement is the Mary C. Jenkins Community Center. In 1961 it's playing a vital part, is social gathering place, kindergarten for children of working mothers, library, childrens theater, and swimming center. The project conceived by Mary C. Kilgore, before 1945, when studying at Shaw University. Finally resulting in Founder's day opening in 1952. The center operates under a board — the first of its type in the state, from which others have copied.

Record Of Elective Officers Of Transylvania County

YEAR:

1878 Clerk of Superior Court — T. S. Gash
 Sheriff — T. A. Lanning
 Register of Deeds — W. P. Southern
 Treasurer — J. O. Paxton
 Coroner — D. I. Corn
 Surveyor — J. E. Merrill
 Representative — J. H. Paxton
 Senator — T. N. Taylor

1880 Sheriff — T. A. Lanning
 Register of Deeds — W. P. Southern
 Treasurer — J. O. Paxton
 Coroner — Dr. A. J. Lyday
 Surveyor — J. E. Merrill

1882 Superior Court Clerk — J. H. Duckworth
 Sheriff — Nathan McMinn
 Register of Deeds — W. P. Southern
 Coroner — Dr. A. J. Lyday
 Surveyor — J. A. Young

1884 Sheriff — Nathan McMinn
 Register of Deeds — W. P. Southern
 Coroner — Dr. A. J. Lyday
 Surveyor — J. A. Young

1886 Superior Court Clerk — J. L. Bell
 Sheriff — Nathan McMinn
 Register of Deeds — T. H. Galloway
 Coroner — Dr. A. J. Lyday
 Surveyor — J. E. Merrill

1888 Sheriff — R. C. Batson
 Register of Deeds — T. H. Galloway
 Treasurer — N. R. Moore
 Coroner — Dr. A. J. Lyday
 Surveyor — J. M. Blythe

1890 Superior Court Clerk — T. H. Galloway
 Sheriff — H. L. Hart
 Register of Deeds — W. P. Whitmire
 Treasurer — W. R. Moore
 Coroner — Dr. J. A. Cannon
 Surveyor — J. W. Blythe

1892 Sheriff — V. B. McGaha
 Register of Deeds — W. P. Whitmire
 Treasurer — W. R. Moore
 Coroner — Dr. Wm. M. Lyday
 Surveyor — A. L. Hardin

1894 Superior Court Clerk — T. H. Hampton
 Sheriff — V. B. McGaha
 Register of Deeds — Ed. S. English
 Treasurer — Vance Galloway
 Coroner — Wm. M. Lyday
 Surveyor — P. P. Orr

Justices: J. J. Shipman R. H. Zachary
 A. F. Jordan H. P. Batson
 W. F. Newton A. B. Corn
 J. M. Orr E. Anderson
 B. J. Brown Louis Maxwell
 B. P. Orr Joseph Daves
 J. D. Morgan J. D. Galloway
 Calvin Galloway J. F. Galloway
 Thomas McCall W. E. Hall
 J. E. Raines W. H. Hinkle
 A. B. Galloway H. P. Nicholson

Constables: J. B. Allison T. H. Galloway
 A. S. Ledbetter J. M. Whitmire
 Jesse W. Allison A. H. Owen
 R. S. Bryson A. L. Hardin

1900 Sheriff — James C. King
 Register of Deeds — Wm. M. Henry
 Treasurer — J. W. McMinn
 Coroner — Dr. J. A. Cannon
 Surveyor — A. L. Hardin
 Commissioners — L. W. Brooks
 C. M. Orr
 M. L. Hamilton

1902

1904

1906

1908

1910

1912 The records do not reveal the information of record for the above years.

1914 Clerk of Superior Court — N. A. Miller
 Sheriff — J. H. Pickelsimer
 Register of Deeds — L. P. Hamlin
 Treasurer — Ed. T. Raines

1916 No record found

1918 Clerk of Superior Court — N. A. Miller
 Sheriff — Cos Paxton
 Register of Deeds — G. C. Kilpatrick

1920 No record found

1922 No record found

1924

1926 Clerk of Superior Court — Roland Owen
 Sheriff — B. J. Sitton
 Register of Deeds — Ira Galloway
 Treasurer — T. E. Patton
 Tax Collector — W. B. Henderson

1928 County Commissioners: A. N. White
 S. R. Owen
 C. R. McNeely
 W. L. Talley

Treasurer — W. L. Couch

1930 Register of Deeds — Jess A. Galloway
 Sheriff — T. E. Patton
 Treasurer — George M. Justus
 Coroner — Dr. J. B. Wilkerson
 Surveyor — J. C. Wike
 Accountant — Alex H. Kizer
 Tax Supervisor — George T. Lyday
 Tax Collector — J. N. Whitmire
 Board of County Commissioners: O. L. Erwin
 A. C. Lyday
 H. A. Plummer
 L. V. Sigmon

1932 Commissioners: W. B. Henderson, W. L. Aiken,
 L. V. Sigmon

Clerk of Court — Otto Alexander
 Tax Collector — T. E. Patton
 Attorney — W. E. Breese

1934 Commissioners: W. Luther Aiken
W. L. Mull
W. B. Henderson
Register of Deeds — Jesse A. Galloway
Clerk of Court — Otto Alexander
Sheriff — Thomas S. Wood
Tax Collector — Lem Brooks
Coroner — S. C. Osborne
Surveyor — T. B. Reid

1936 No record found in the recorded books

1938 County Commissioners: E. Carl Allison
A. B. Galloway
John L. Wilson
Surveyor — T. D. Grimshaw
Coroner — J. C. Wike
Tax Collector — Edwin A. Morgan
Sheriff — George D. Shuford
Register of Deeds — Eck Simms
Clerk of Court — Spaulding McIntosh
Senator: Pat Kimsey

1940 Commissioners — E. Carl Allison
Willis W. Brittain
John L. Wilson
Tax Collector — Edwin A. Morgan
Register of Deeds — Melvin Gillespie
Representative: Ralph R. Fisher

1942 Sheriff — Freeman Hayes (resigned) B. H. Freeman was
appointed.
Clerk of Superior Court N. A. Miller
Representative — Willis M. Galloway
Coroner: C. Spurgeon Osborne

1944 Commissioners — Willis W. Brittain
C. Lewis Osborne
Gaston Whitmire
Tax Collector — Frank C. King
Register of Deeds — Eva C. Gillespie
Representative — Ralph R. Fisher

1946 Sheriff — Bert H. Freeman
Clerk of Superior Court — N. A. Miller
Representative — Melvin Gillespie
Senator — Verne P. Clement
Register of Deeds — Paul Whitmire

1948 Commissioners — Willis W. Brittain
Dewey Burton
C. Lewis Osborne
Tax Collector — Frank C. King
Register of Deeds — Paul M. Whitmire
Representative — Ralph R. Fisher
Sheriff — B. H. Freeman

1950 Sheriff — B. H. Freeman
Register of Deeds — Paul Whitmire
Clerk of Court — F. Marvin McCall
Coroner: C. Spurgeon Osborne
Representative — Ralph R. Fisher

1952 Clerk of Superior Court — F. Marvin McCall
Commissioners — Freeman Hayes
Dewey Burton
George T. Perkins
Board of Education: F. S. Best, Homer McCall, Harry
Morgan, J. F. Zachary, Mrs. Susie Matthews.
Representative — Ralph R. Fisher
Tax Collector — Charles M. Douglas
Register of Deeds — Paul M. Whitmire

1954 Sheriff: — E. V. Dillingham
Clerk of Superior Court: — F. Marvin McCall
Commissioners — Freeman Hayes
Dewey Burton
Dwight Moffitt
Representative — Ralph R. Fisher (who died while in
office in 1955 and his wife, Mrs. Thel-
ma R. Fisher, was appointed to fill
his unexpired term.)

1956 Tax Collector — C. M. Douglas
Register of Deeds — Paul M. Whitmire
Commissioners — Freeman Hayes
Dewey Burton
Dwight Moffitt
Representative — James C. Gaither

1958 Sheriff — E. V. Dillingham
Clerk of Superior Court — F. Marvin McCall
Board of Education — S. E. Varner, Jr.
Homer McCall
Harry Morgan
Tom Ramsay
Ed Matheson
Coroner — Donald Lee Moore
Representative — James C. Gaither
State Senator — B. W. Thomason

1960 Tax Collector — C. M. Douglas (who died and a succes-
sor was named to fill his term: Law-
rence Hipp.
Register of Deeds — Owen G. Lee
Commissioners — R. M. Boyd
C. Few Lyda*
Dwight Moffitt

* C. Few Lyda resigned and a
successor was named to com-
plete his term - Henry Holliday.
Board of Education — Ed Matheson, Tom Ramsay,
Harry Morgan, D. S. Winches-
ter and Gene Morris (who was
appointed to fill the unexpir-
ed term of S. E. Varner, Jr.,
resigned)

Representative — Jack Potts
Attorney — Jack Hudson



MONTCLOVE ESTATES, 1854, former home of Captain Francis W. Johnstone



View from the front veranda of Montclove



HOTEL BUCK FOREST, 1860, constructed by Micjah Thomas and later owned by Joseph McDowell Carson

Present Day Transylvania County Officers

POPULATION 16,372

County Seat, Brevard

| OFFICE | OFFICER | ADDRESS |
|---|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| JUDGE 18th JUDICIAL DISTRICT | J. WILL PLESS, Jr. | MARION, N. C. |
| Member of House of Representatives | Jack H. Potts | Brevard, N. C. |
| Clerk of Court | F. M. McCall | Brevard, N. C. |
| Register of Deeds | Owen G. Lee | Brevard, N. C. |
| Sheriff | E. V. Dillingham | Brevard, N. C. |
| Tax Collector | Lawrence R. Hipp | Brevard, N. C. |
| County Accountant and Tax Supervisor | Carl E. Bryson | Brevard, N. C. |
| Coroner | Donald Lee Moore | Brevard, N. C. |
| County Health Officer | Dr. John R. Folger | Brevard, N. C. |
| Supt. of Education | C. Wayne Bradburn | Brevard, N. C. |
| *Board of Education | *E. B. Matheson, Chm. | Brevard, N. C. |
| Supt. of Public Welfare | Mrs. Edith Jenkins | Brevard, N. C. |
| Home Demonstration Agent | Miss Anne Benson Priest | Brevard, N. C. |
| Farm Demonstration Agent | James E. Davis | Brevard, N. C. |
| Chairman of Board of Elections | T. J. Wilson | Brevard, N. C. |
| District Game & Fish Protector | James D. Renegar | Brevard, N. C. |
| County Forest Ranger | Clark Grissom | Brevard, N. C. |
| County Attorney | John R. Hudson, Jr. | Brevard, N. C. |
| County Librarian | Mrs. Lehman Kapp | Brevard, N. C. |
| Veterans Service Officer | Owen G. Lee | Brevard, N. C. |
| County Commissioners | R. M. Boyd, Chm. | Brevard, N. C. |
| | Dwight Moffitt | Brevard, N. C. |
| | Henry Holliday | RFD, Pisgah Forest, N. C. |
| *Board of Education: | E. B. Matheson, Chairman | Brevard, N. C. |
| | Harry Morgan | Rosman, N. C. |
| | D. S. Winchester | Route 2, Brevard, N. C. |
| | Thomas E. Ramsay | Brevard, N. C. |
| | Eugene M. Morris | Brevard, N. C. |

World War I

In Loving Memory of Those Who Made the Supreme
SACRIFICE FOR THEIR COUNTRY

D. Monroe Wilson

Boyd Wiley Ross

Thomas Joseph Turner

Branch Lorenzo Glazener

Ellis Freeman Barton

Scott Doggin

Buford Raines

Erected by the Citiizens of Transylvania County
TO HONOR ITS MEN WHO SERVED IN THE
1917 — WORLD WAR — 1919
FOR HONOR — HOME and HUMANITY.

Presented and Promoted

— by —

DR. C. W. HUNT

Memorial World War II

Barnett, Samuel Stevens, TM IV/c

Boley, William Powell, SGT.

Chappell, Oscar R., PVT.

Conner, David James, PVT.

Corpening, Robert Clark, SGT.

Costanza, Christie Patrick, T/S

Crary, Jack Oliver, PVT.

Dickson, John Byron, 2nd LT.

Enloe, Richard, CPL.

Fowler, Fred Gordon, 2nd LT.

Galloway, Alfred L.

Garren, Clarence Dolphin,

Holcombe, Warden Kenneth,

Hampton, Thomas Hillard, Jr.,

Hinkle, Walter Kenneth,

Jackson, Lewis Earl, PFC.

Johnston, Robert,

Keener, John H., Jr., CPL.

Kilpatrick, Albert T., PVT.

Leopard, John P., PFC.

Lee, Weldon Leon, PFC.

Loftis, Edward Terrell, PFC.

Loftis, Jack, CPL.

Masters, Clarence Eugene, 1/c

Masters, Woodrow Marvin, PFC.

McCall, Glenville Galloway, PVT.

McCrary, Harold Joseph, S/SGT.

McKinney, Charles Richard, S/GT.

McLeod, Hinton, S., 2nd Lt.

McQuinn, Howard,

Merrill, Hartman M., SGT.

Miller, (Jack) John Duckett, Lt. Cdr.

Miller, Joseph A. Fred, Jr., COL.

Mull, Charles, 2/SGT.

Nix, John M. Jr., PVT.

Norris, Alton B. PFC.

Norris, John Henry, PFC.

Norris, Harold F. S/SGT.

Paxton, James Oliver, S K2

Ray, Lawrence Arnold, SGT.

Powell, Waytha, PFC.

Reid, Carter H.

Rhodes, William Lloyd, PFC.

Schepkowski, Theodore Augustine, S/SGT.

Shook, Joseph, A., T/5

Sims, Eskel Lewis, Jr., AVC

Smith, Arthur Arnold, PFC.

Stockstill, Talmadge,

Waldron, Charles R., PVT

Wallace, John Glennon, CPL.

Wilson, Herschel Larry, Jr., AVC.

Wilson, Jessie A.

Wood, Albert Marvin, Jr., CPL.

Younghlood, Clifford, PVT.

Zachary, Guy, M., PVT



CHESTNUT HILL HOUSE, 1860, former home of the Rev. James Stuart Hanckle of St. Paul's Episcopal church, in Dunn's Rock valley.

1861

1961

TOWN OF BREVARD

Brevard was incorporated by Act entitled "An Act To Establish Transylvania County," duly adopted February 15, 1861.

The Post Office was established in 1861 and the name Brevard.

PRESENT OFFICERS

B. W. Thomason — Mayor

Members of The Board of Aldermen

| | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| R. W. Melton | A. A. Trantham |
| John Truesdail | Leslie S. Grogan |
| Mark T. Osborne | |

Town Manager

Bill Edens

Town Clerk

Opal C. King

Policemen

W. S. Thurston — Chief

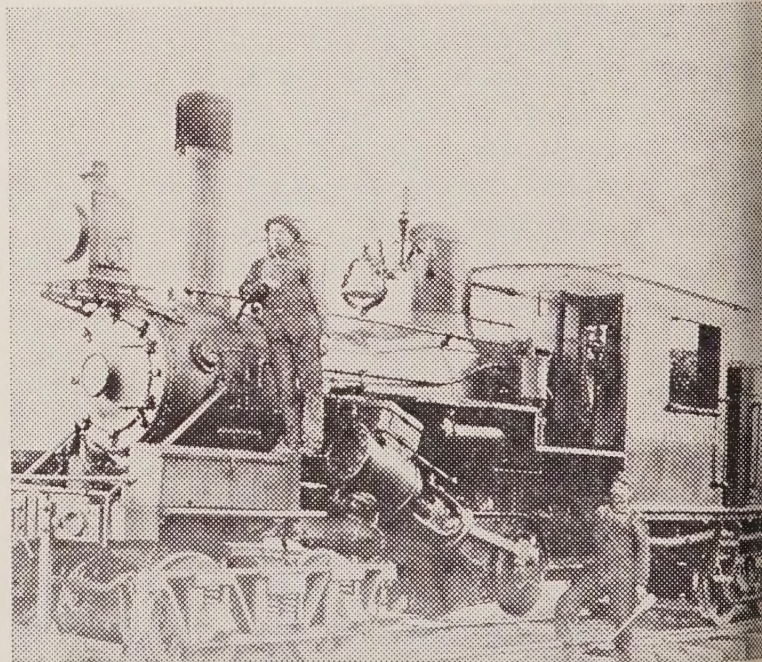
| | |
|--------------|---------------|
| L. B. Vaughn | James Rowe |
| Wade Nelson | Eugene Stiles |

Fire Chief

Dan Merrill

Town Attorney

Cecil J. Hill



CARR LUMBER COMPANY RAILROAD ENGINE, 1914, "The improved method of bringing the timbers out of the forest."



Transylvania's Seal

To stimulate artists of Transylvania to design a seal emblematic of our county's Century of Progress, both in natural resources and man-made opportunities, the Transylvania Historical Association promoted a seal design contest during the spring of 1961. Among the large number of entries received from professionals and amateurs, were creditable conceptions from pupils in several schools. Many of these emphasized two things which have contributed most to this county's all around development — its trees and its water — for their beauty, and their economic usefulness, explains Mrs. G. H. Lyday, Association President.

Upon a most careful and exhaustive grading by competent judges the entry selected to receive the \$50.00 bond presented by the association, was a drawing by Mrs. Patricia Bennett of Brevard. Other designs winning ribbons were by: Chip Andrews, Mike Hunter, and Mrs. Karen Hunnicutt.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Olin Mathieson Chemical Corporaiion

PISGAH FOREST, N. C.

GIFTS TO THE QUEEN'S COURT

Walter Cantrell

Frank C. King

Mary Jane McCrary

Avery Neil

Mr. and Mrs. John Rufty

SPONSORSHIPS

Abercrombie's Home Furnishings
Arnold Insurance Agency
Austin Studio
B & B Feed & Seed Company
Batson's Sinclair Station
Beauty Nook
Beauty Salon
Belk's
Berry's
Bower's
Brevard Federal Savings & Loan Association
Brevard Insurance Agency
George E. Buchanan, Printer
Cassel's United Store
Citizens Telephone Company
Co-Ed Theatre
Duke Power Company
Economy Auto
Farmer's Federation
First Union National Bank
Gaither's Restaurant
Robert T. Gash
Dr. and Mrs. Carol Grahl
Gray's Barber Shop
Hamlin, Potts, Ramsey & Hudson

Houston's Furniture Company
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Jerome
Carl McCrary and Mary Jane McCrary
Henry McDonald
Dr. Frank B. McGuire
Morris Pharmacy
Newland Clinic
Parson's Jewelry
Pat's
Patterson's
Ramsey, Hill & Smart
Dr. E. O. Roland
Sader & Stricker
Dr. James Sanders
Schulman's
Sledge Radio & TV
Roberta and Carl Stephens
Town of Brevard
Transylvania County
Transylvania Times
Trantham's
Varner's
WPNF
Ward's
Western Auto

